Daily Report

Latin America

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OAS Adopts Several 'Key Resolutions'

FL2011165989 Bridgetown CANA in English 1514 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] Washington, Nov 20, CANA— These are some of the key resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the Organisation of American States (OAS) which ended here at the weekend.

—authorization to the OAS secretary general to permit Canada to sign the Charter of the organization and to accept deposit of the corresponding instrument of ratification. Canada has announced that its membership will be effective January 1, 1990.

—acceptance of the request of the Government of Belize that it be granted the status of permanent observer, and approval of a similar request from the Commmission of the European Communities. There are now 26 permanent observers to the OAS.

—call for a cessation of hostilities and an immediate resumption of the dialogue to attain just and lasting peace, within the constitutional framework of El Salvador, in accordance with the Tela Agreements.

—instruction to the OAS Permanent Council to regulate the obligation of the member states to pay their assessments and to establish rules and criteria for the settlement of arrearages.

—instruction to the OAS Permanent Council to develop a program of action for the strengthening of the OAS.

—election by acclamation of Ambassador Christopher Thomas of Trinidad and Tobago to a five-year term as assistant secretary general of the OAS beginning July 7, 1990. He will succeed Ambassador Val T. McComie of Barbados, who will complete his second five-year term in that post. Ambassador Thomas becomes the second citizen of the English speaking Caribbean to assume one of the two elective posts in the OAS General Secretariat.

—reaffirmation of the urgent need of the Panamanian people to express their will within the shortest possible time through an authentic democratic process that leads to the establishment of a freely elected government, without external interferences, having all the guarantees necessary for the full exercise of universal suffrage.

—expression of the strongest support to the Central American peace accords, urging at the same time the governments of that subregion to continue their efforts to achieve firm and lasting peace in Central America. The resolution also gives its full support to the OAS Secretary General Joao Clemente Baena Soares in the duties as a member of the International Support and Verification Commission (CIAV).

—reaffirmation of high priority to the need to combat the drug problem, assigning top priority to reducing the demand for drugs through preventive measures and appeals to public awareness.

—statement that there is a need for a summit meeting of heads of state and of government to discuss solutions to the problems besetting all the member states of the OAS, entrusting the task of preparing this summit meeting to the OAS Permanent Council.

—expression of concern over the persistence of serious violations of fundamental rights and freedoms in several countries of the region, particularly of cases that infringe upon the full effectiveness of the civil and political rights recognized in the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man and in the American Convention on Human Rights.

—expression of support to the OAS member states in their struggle to eradicate absolute poverty in the hemisphere and in their efforts to co-ordinate cooperative actions to achieve that objective.

—decision to maintain the high priority assigned to the organizations fellowship and training programs.

—authorization for 1990 of a total net appropriation of 83,066,800 U.S. dollars to finance the programs and activities of the OAS.

—re-election of the current chairman of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Oliver Jackman of Barbados, to a second term in that agency.

—acceptance of the invitation of the Government of Paraguay to hold the twentieth regular session in Asuncion, the Paraguayan capital city, beginning June 4, 1990.

OAS Commission Urges Restoration of Human Rights

FL2011140189 Bridgetown CANA in English 1922 GMT 19 Nov 89

[Text] Washington, Nov 19, CANA— The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights is urging Panama and El Salvador to take immediate steps to guarantee human rights and political freedoms in their respective countries.

Chairman of the commission, Oliver Jackman of Barbados, made the call in his report on the general state of human rights in the region, and presented it to the current 19th regular session of the Organisation of American States (OAS).

Jackman said the commission agreed with the call by the Archbishop of El Salvador Rivera y Damas for an immediate end to the violence in that country. In addition, the commission urgently calls on all parties to the conflict to respect the Geneva Convention, with specific reference to the protection of civilians, he said.

"Not least... We call on the government of El Salvador to provide the firmest guarantees for the security of members of the human rights committee, who from all accounts are a prime target of violence ...," Jackman, a lawyer and former diplomat, said in his report.

Regarding the situation in Panama, Jackman said that even though the Panamanian Constitution formally establishes the division of powers, "in practice, the preponderant role given to the defence forces means they are not duly subordinate to the civilian power."

"This upsets the balance in the entire structure of the Panamanian State..." said Jackman.

He said the commission was of the view that the majority of Panamanians wanted free and fair presidential elections, adding the annulment of presidential elections last May and lack of agreement between the political participants "have left the current provisional government devoid of constitutional legitimacy." Jackman said as a result the commission was recommending to the Panamanian authorities that immediate steps be taken to release individuals who have been detained for political reasons, including members of the military who have been deprived of their freedom since 1988.

The commission also wants the authorities to permit the immediate return of exiles, providing them with necessary guarantees for their safety and exercise of their political rights.

The Panamanian Government is also being asked to take immediate steps to control the excessive violence that the defence forces, police and paramilitary groups employ against the civilian population.

"They must also put an immediate end to the mistreatment, torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment that the defence forces inflict upon individuals deprived of their freedom," said the report.

Antigua Ambassador Lake Addresses OAS

FL2011143189 Bridgetown CANA in English 1653 GMT 19 Nov 89

[Text] Washington, Nov 19, CANA - Antigua and Barbuda anxiously await the application for membership in 1990 from Belize and Guyana into the family of the Americas," says Ambassador Edmund Hawkins Lake.

In his statement before the Organisation of American States (OAS) General Assembly on Saturday, Lake said the participation of the countries in the region is essential to help shape the future of the OAS.

He said that the unanimous decision to accept Belize's application for permanent observer status was "a historic one and complements the efforts of the organisation in establishing a dialogue with the government and people of that country."

Belize and Guyana had previously been debarred from OAS membership because of border disputes with member countries.

"The OAS has a central role to play in promoting peace, representative democracy, and development in Central America," Lake said.

Andean Countries Support Summit on Narcotics

PY2011140689 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0009 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] The Andean Parliament meeting in Cochabamba, Bolivia, decided today to give its full support to the "summit" of the Bolivian, Peruvian, and Colombian Presidents with U.S. President George Bush to discuss a joint antinarcotics policy.

The need to have a summit with Bush was suggested last October by Bolivian President Jaime Paz, Peruvian President Alan Garcia, and Colombian President Virgilio Barco, when the three presidents met to discuss the "Bennett Plan," a U.S. Government proposal to fight drug trafficking.

The Andean Parliament held that the fight on drug trafficking must include social and economic development programs for producer countries. This proposal was also discussed and approved by Commission VII of the Andean Chamber, which met until the night of 18 November.

Deputies of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela approved the "Cochabamba Declaration," ratifying the characterization of drug trafficking as a "crime against humanity."

The declaration points out that drug trafficking is "a new political, social, and economic phenomenon" that "affects the sovereignty of nations" and "endangers democratic stability and the existence of institutions."

Regarding the elimination of coca plantations—the source of raw material for cocaine manufacturing—the declaration says the sovereignty, culture, and ecology of producing zones must be respected.

Bolivia and Peru are the largest coca producing countries in the world, while Colombia specializes in the manufacture of cocaine.

Cuba

USSR Defense Industry Minister Pays Visit

FL2011161689 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1250 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] Army General Raul Castro Ruz, second secretary of the party and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, bade farewell early this morning to Boris Mikhailovich Belousov, Soviet minister of the defense industry, who thus ended a working visit to our country.

The Soviet delegation visited industrial centers for electronic, textile, and construction items, among others. The Soviet minister is charged with production of these items and items for mass consumption.

General Castro, who escorted the Soviet delegation to the ramp at Jose Marti Airport, conferred with Minister Belousov and Soviet Ambassador Yuriy Petrov about their impressions of the visit and the meetings they had in our country.

Following the departure of the Soviet delegation, Cuban Domestic Trade Minister Manuel Vila Sosa gave an interview to our reporter Pedro Gonzalez Nunne.

[Begin recording] [Gonzalez] What can you tell us about the agreements signed with our country?

[Vila] Well, during the visit by Comrade Belousov—that is, the Soviet minister of the defense industry— we designed a comprehensive plan, because they indeed cover a number of areas that fall under the jurisdiction of several Cuban ministries.

In the agricultural sector, for instance, it has been agreed that they will grant lines of credit to benefit agricultural products. This is very important. They will supply 15 lines next year. The agreement also includes delivery of some special tractors for agriculture.

Important agreements were also reached in the area of the food industry, such as delivery of milking lines for the dairy industry, equipment for processing meat and sausages, and containers. In sum, an ambitious plan for the food industry was approved.

Another ministry included is the Ministry of Light Industry; the Celia Sanchez Textile Plant in Santiago de Cuba will receive important support in the form of equipment and important parts.

The Ministry of Construction Materials was also included because it is charged with supplying explosives for civil engineering construction. It is important for this ministry to be able to obtain explosives.

Another ministry involved is, of course, our ministry through which they provide us with a considerable number of refrigerators and sewing machines. Given the international situation, they have also shifted several of their production lines for military materiel to production of consumer goods, and they will supply several other items such as toys and household appliances.

Thus, we think this was a very fruitful, very important visit. They were very receptive [words indistinct]. As you may have seen, Comrade Raul held a lengthy meeting with them in which they were briefed in detail about the results, just as happened during their recent meeting with the commander in chief. [end recording]

Minister Views Accords

FL2011192589 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Excerpts] Army General Raul Castro Ruz, second secretary of the Central Committee and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, early this morning bade farewell to Boris Mikhailovich Belousov, Soviet minister of the defense industry, who thus ended a working visit to our country. [passage omitted]

Following the departure of the Soviet delegation, Cuban Domestic Trade Minister Manuel Vila Sosa commented on the cooperation existing between the Soviet Union and Cuba.

[Begin Vila recording] We have not yet quantified all this, but the results will undoubtedly reach the people either directly or indirectly and what we have just discussed and signed with them involves several tens of millions of rubles. [end recording].

PRC Vice Minister Ends Visit, Lauds Accord

FL2011171289 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] The PRC delegation that visited our country for several days has returned home. Jiang Mingkuan, first vice minister of the PRC State Science and Technology Commission, gave us an interview shortly before boarding his plane.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] As a result of your delegation's visit to our country, Cuba and the PRC signed an agreement. What can you tell us about the prospects of future cooperation between the two countries in this area?

[Jiang, in Chinese, with simultaneous Spanish translation] In the first place, I would like to thank the people and Government of Cuba for the hospitality we have been accorded. With the signing of the agreement on technological and scientific cooperation between the two countries and with this visit, we have found that there is a broad field for future scientific and technical cooperation. The Communist Party of Cuba, the Cuban Government, and the Cuban people have had several achievements in many fields, including the area of science and technology [words indistinct] much progress in all schools. [end recording]

National Assembly Official Meets FRG Deputies

FL2111020089 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Nov 89

[Excerpt] Upon receiving a group of FRG deputies, Severo Aguirre del Cristo, acting president of the National Assembly of the People's Government, said that Cuba is implementing a serious plan to create the best conditions for tourism.

The West German parliamentarians are visiting Cuba to promote tourism. Approximately 40,000 tourists a year come to Cuba from the FRG, and it is expected that this figure will grow during the next few years. During their stay in Cuba, the deputies will visit tourism centers and historical sites and they will hold meetings with leaders of the Communist Party of Cuba and tourism officials. [passage omitted]

Commission Created To Report on TV Marti

FL2111001589 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Report by PRENSA LATINA correspondent Manuel Villabujar, from Montevideo, Uruguay]

[Text] Our country was elected president of the Latin American and Caribbean Union of Radio Broadcasting. On this occasion, we interviewed Ismael Gonzalez, director [title as heard] of the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television, ICRT, who discussed the meeting held in Uruguay.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] The meeting has been characterized by the search for practical measures that will increase the efficiency of the radio broadcasting union in contributing to the integration of our region. Communications is an indispensable factor that helps accelerate this integration process.

At the request of the radio broadcasting union, a commission of experts was created to give a report on the plan known as TV Marti, which the United States will be directing toward Cuba, during our next general assembly meeting in Havana in May 1992. The report will stress certain aspects that directly or indirectly pertain to the resolutions issued at this meeting. The radio broadcasting union now, more than ever,—and I quote part of the resolution that was issued—says it is necessary to preserve the absolute respect for the audiovisual spaces of each nation since this comprises part of each country's territory and thus is subject to the inviolability of each nation's sovereignty which is granted to them by international law and rules of coexistance. [end recording]

Regional Central Banks Meeting Inaugurated

FL2011222289 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2055 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] The 26th meeting of Latin American Central Bank technicians began this morning at Havana's Palace of Conventions. The meeting is hosted by the National Bank of Cuba [BNC] and the Latin American Monetary Studies. BNC Minister President Hector Rodriguez Llompart gave the opening remarks at the meeting, and he wished the participants success in discussing 30 presentations made by technicians from 19 countries.

The Cuban leader announced that 26 November will mark the 30th anniversary of the appointment of Commander Ernesto Che Guevara as national bank president. He recalled Guevara's concern and analysis of unemployment and the foreign debts of our countries at that time. Rodriguez Llompart also quoted Jose Marti and Simon Bolivar who, during the past century, expressed an interest in the hemisphere's economy.

Alarcon Hails Halifax Conference, Chides U.S.

FL2011144889

[Editorial report] Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish at 0130 GMT on 18 November, during its weekly program "International View," carries a panel discussion on the recent international conference held in Halifax, Canada, on the 30 years of Cuban revolution.

Host Valentin Rodriguez begins his 24-minute program by introducing his guests, who attended the Halifax conference. They are: Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada, Cuban vice minister of foreign relations; Ernesto Escobar Soto, deputy chief of the General Department of Foreign Relations of the Central Committee; Juan Antonio Blanco Gil, an official of Latin American Studies of the Central Committee; and Carlos Iglesias, a Cuban television reporter.

Alarcon explains that the conference was held in Canada because it was practically impossible to obtain entry visas for the Cuban delegates into the United States, but on the other hand, it was important for the U.S. delegates to attend.

Each guest notes that a wide range of topics was discussed at the conference, and that it would easier to mention those topics that were not covered. They also emphasize that most delegates approached the Cuban revolution from an objective, academic standpoint, with the exception of a small group of die-hard delegates from a Miami-based right-wing organization.

Summing up the conference, Alarcon says: "This was undoubtedly the largest conference ever held on Cuba. I believe it was also unique in several respects. Never before had such a wide range of delegates from a philosophical standpoint gathered in such a large number to discuss such a wide range of topics, so many aspects of Cuban reality. Thus, this was a widely comprehensive, complex and enriching discussion.

"I believe we should emphasize that the U.S. Government was conspicuously absent in this very open, complex, enriching debate, which was attended by all walks of life—from the ultraleft to representatives of recalcitrant sectors of Cuban immigrants. It is important to note that

no representative of the U.S. Government—which is always claiming to support dialogue, discussion, intellectual openmindedness—attended the conference. They declined the invitation to attend the conference, which was held, if you will, just across their border. Mr Morley, the director for Cuban affairs, was especially invited to attend. The Canadians insisted on U.S. participation.

"The Canadian Government clearly endorsed the conference; several representatives of the Canadian Government attended the conference from beginning to end. That is, the Canadian Government supported the conference by making it possible and by following it closely. Besides, a special Canadian ambassador attended the opening session of the conference in which he reiterated Canadian policy regarding Cuba; that is, a policy based on mutual respect above ideological differences. He clearly stated the Canadian position.

"Thus, the United States did not take part in a debate in which they could have learned a lot, because the debate was instrumental in proving that amid diverse viewpoints.... [changes thought] I am sure, comrades, that you will agree with me that we are not engaged in a propaganda campaign, but we may say that we won, because there was great receptiveness to the Cuban criteria and views. This does not mean that all those people think like us, but they did understand our proposals, our approaches, our views, and I believe that the Cuban revolution received very important recognition at this conference. The conference was not meant for this; it was designed to study the Cuban revolution, to study its experiences 30 years later, but this could only result in a tribute to the effort made by our people during this period."

The program also includes two 2-minute clips of interviews with foreign delegates to the conference by journalist Carlos Iglesias.

Haiti

Avril Gives Speech on Armed Forces Day

FL2011182189 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1000 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Excerpts] Saturday, 18 November, was Armed Forces Day in Haiti. There was a ceremony at the National Palace. The members of the Armed Forces [FADH] talked about their past and the nation's history. There was a parade and a good show. The president of the military government, Lieutenant General Prosper Avril, addressed a message in French and Creole to the members of the FADH. He reminded them of the example set by valiant soldiers in the past, who braved danger in order to allow the seeds of freedom to germinate in our Haiti. The president also reminded the military that the country's honor now depends on them, as they, together with the Haitian people who are beset by violence and criminality, write another page of history.

President Avril asked soldiers to remain calm and continue to work along the line traced by the 17 September government to establish justice and respect for human rights in Haiti.

[Begin Avril recording] You are the descendants of those stalwart men, who always set a good example, who illustrate how men "who wear the pants win battles." You are the descendants of those valiant soldiers, who braved dangers in order to establish freedom in this land. The nation's honor now depends on you. You must understand that you and the Haitian people, who are struggling, beset by violence and criminality, are now writing another page of the nation's history.

As you do your jobs, outlined by the 17 September government, keep a cool head when provoked. Remain calm, regardless of the seriousness of the act committed. Remain staunch in this battle—which will never end—to establish in Haiti justice, the rule of law, and respect for both the bodies and the minds of all. [end recording]

In this message, President Avril gave the Haitian Army both great hopes and congratulations. He also spoke of the difficult situation in Haiti today, where vile purveyors of illusion, exploiting the poverty of the masses, are endangering the authority of the government and the future of the entire nation. [passage omitted]

[Begin Avril recording, in French] We are going through a difficult period—with purveyors of illusions, who are exploiting the Haitian people's poverty, daily imperiling the government's authority, the nation's organic unity, and even the very future of the Republic. A new way of showing one's love for these people suddenly consists of making the Haitian people permanently occupy the streets of our towns or forcing them to go on weekly strikes. These strikes are not aimed at furthering the Haitian people's demands but at making a spirit of protest prevail in a country that urgently needs its work day in order to revitalize its economy. [end recording]

In his message, President Avril promised that the FADH would respect its promises to the Haitian people, promises the Army made when Gen Avril's government took power through the coup d'etat of 17 September 1988.

Avril Continues To Visit to Garrisons

FL1611224089 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1000 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Excerpts] Lieutenant General Prosper Avril, president of the military government, continued his visits yesterday to the capital's military garrisons. Gen Avril's tone was the same yesterday as it was on 13 and 14 November. He preached unity and discipline within the Haitian Armed Forces [FADH].

President Avril, who yesterday visited the Military Academy, the School of Military Instruction, and the Signal Corps, said he is satisfied with FADH's work so far. [passage omitted]

In his message, President Avril congratulated the members of the Military Academy for having always maintained discipline, regardless of what was happening in the streets of Port-au-Prince.

[Begin Avril recording] [passage omitted] There has never been any infiltration in the Military Academy. The training given cadets by the instructors and the security of the cadets and camp provided by the officers and the Military Academy detachment have always been impeccable, and I must congratulate you on this. [passage omitted] [end recording]

The president's second visit was to the School of Military Instruction, where he was welcomed with the presidential anthem. [passage omitted]

[Begin Avril recording] [passage omitted] The School of Military Instruction has an important mission: to train soldiers for the FADH. [passage omitted] However, instruction is now being given under different circumstances. All instructors are now well aware of the fact that they are training soldiers for a professional army, an army with a well-defined mission: to defend this territory that our forefathers left us; to provide security for the entire nation, for the four corners of Haiti; and to preserve the national independence of Haiti. This is a big responsibility. Joining the Army is now an important decision in your lives.

When we join the Army, we join to become part of an ideal, to participate in a task this institution has set for itself: to always stand by the Haitian people and all the nation's productive elements, thus enhancing their productivity. This in turn helps this nation that our revered forefathers Dessalines, Capois La Mort, and others left us through their great gesture of 18 November 1803, this land they left us to live on because this is the only place where we can live as our masters. [end recording] The president's last visit on 15 November was to the General Headquarters of the Signal Corps on Sans-Fil Street. [passage omitted] After the introductions were made, the commanding general, Major Jean-Claude Occenard, explained the Haitian Army's new military communications system to the president. [passage omitted]

[Begin Avril recording] [passage omitted] I also ask all FADH members to be clearheaded so we can get through this crisis that has been going on in our country for over 3 ½ years without any incidents, without falling into the trap that is set for us each time somebody seeks to set us against the Haitian people, from which we came and which we are. I am asking you to be clearheaded, within the framework of your mission and out of respect for the law, the Haitian people, and yourselves—out of the respect for one another that should exist. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Six Political Parties Demand Avril Resignation

FL1711181289 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1000 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Excerpts] Six political parties are demanding that General Avril leave the government because of the recent events and the generalized disapproval of the government that has been expressed for almost 2 months. In a written statement, six political parties demand, as a solution to the crisis disturbing Haiti, that Gen Avril's government resign unconditionally and that power be transferred to the Court of Cassation, in accordance with the Constitution. [passage omitted]

These parties feel the only result of the measures thus far applied by the government in the different spheres of activity in Haiti has been to block the democratic process; isolate Haiti; aggravate its abject poverty, unemployment, insecurity, criminality, and despair; and reestablish state terrorism and dictatorship in Haiti. [passage omitted]

The six parties signing this statement say they demand the unconditional resignation of Lt Gen Prosper Avril's de facto government and ask that power be transferred to the Court of Cassation in conformity with the Constitution. They ask that talks with the Haitian Armed Forces General Staff begin immediately to set up transitional structures to head toward the election of a civilian government that will be the result of the free expression of the nation's will.

The parties demanding the resignation of the military government are the Haitian Christian Democratic Party, the National Agricultural and Industrial Party, the Mobilization for National Development, one of the two Movements for the Organization of the Country, the Christian Democratic Assembly, and the Union of Democratic Patriots. These are all centrist parties.

We remind listeners, however, that the Unified Party of Haitian Communists, a member of the National Assemblage along with these six parties, has refused to identify with this initiative by the six parties. PUCH's number two man, Max Bourjolly, has stated that given the crisis in Haiti today, the only constitutional solution possible is to hold elections organized by a national coalition government.

24-Hour Strike Called for 22 November

FL2011184189 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1000 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] Three union, democratic, and people's organizations—Autonomous Organization of Haitian Workers [CATH], Confederation for Democratic Unity [KID], and 17 September People's Organization [OP-17]—have issued a press release calling for a 24-hour strike on Wednesday, 22 November. The strike is to continue pressing for the release of three citizens who have been in jail since 1 November—Jean Auguste Mesyeux, Evans Paul, and Etienne Marineau.

These organizations claim they are striking to demand of the government the immediate and unconditional release of these three militants, as well as an end to repression and abuse in Haiti.

The general's repressive machine will spare no one. Everyone should be concerned and join the battle. For this reason, CATH, KID, and OP-17 ask all organizations throughout Haiti—workers, peasants, drivers, merchants, the unemployed, members of the clergy, street vendors, and all men and women in Haiti—to participate in this 24-hour strike on Wednesday, 22 November.

Panpra's Gilles Discusses Political Alliance

FL1711220089 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1500 GMT 17 Nov 89

[Excerpts] Serges Gilles, general coordinator of the Nationalistic and Progressive Revolutionary Party of Haiti [Panpra], is currently visiting Paris to meet with his friends in the French Socialist Party. In Paris, Gilles defined his political strategy regarding Panpra's political alliance with the Movement for the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti [MIDH] and the National Patriotic Movement of 28 November [MNP-28].

Gilles also revealed his ambitions. In addition to his goal of saving democracy in Haiti, he wants to be prime minister. Here is a report by Florence Dufort and Richard Coles.

[Begin relay] [Coles] The Serges Gilles we saw in Paris on Monday 13 November was reassuring and confident about the future of democracy in Haiti, even if the path ahead is full of obstacles. Armed with the active support given him by the Socialist International and the French Socialist Party, Gilles—flanked by his French Socialist Party colleagues; the representative of Marc Bazin's MIDH, (Leslie Pean); and a representative of the Martiniquais branch of the Socialist Party—sought (? if not) to convince (?at least) to seduce. After commenting briefly on Haitian current events and reading a coalition communique protesting the latest events in Port-au-Prince, Gilles told us about the political action his party intends to deploy to meet the challenge (?of establishing a democracy). Of course this Paris meeting had nothing to do with the Panpra congress in Port-au-Prince; Gilles is still expressing satisfaction about the latter's success.

[Dufort] [Passage omitted] Regarding Panpra's alliance with MIDH and MNP-28, Gilles (?provided an update on) Haitian reality, explaining the whys and wherefores of this polygamous political marriage.

Make no mistake about it. This is a circumstantial alliance, not a fusion. This alliance does not claim to be strategic, nor tactical, nor merely political. It is purely and simply a life-saver, confides Gilles. The reason this liaison deliberately transgresses ideological borders is to allow the three parties to together be a swimming star capable of saving Haitian democracy, which is in the process of drowning.

[Coles] So, that's it, Gilles! And the question is asked outright (? why). The alliance is reproached for its hermeticism and for the fact that it does not extend to the National Committee of the Congress of Democratic Movements and other leftist parties, such as the Haitian Communist Party—with which the Panpra surely has greater affinity? [passage omitted] [end relay]

CTH States Position on Political Situation

FL1711212089 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1000 GMT 17 Nov 89

[Excerpts] The participation of the Confederation of Haitian Workers [CTH] in the 22d World Workers Congress and its position on Haiti's current political situation—in which the detention of Evans Paul, Jean Auguste Mesyeux, and Etienne Marineau, who have been in jail for 17 days, is a problem—were two of the main points discussed at a news conference yesterday morning at CTH Headquarters on Rue des Miracles.

Regarding CTH participation in this congress being held in Latin America—in Caracas, Venezuela—for the first time by the World Workers Confederation, CTH said it is going to state its many complaints at the congress, complaints which are going to be discussed as well as noted in the final resolutions of the congress.

According to CTH Secretary General Jean Claude Lebrun, in addition to all the other problems, the problem of the continued detention of these three opposition members is going to be discussed to seek solidarity from workers organizations in Europe and Latin America which would put pressure on General Avril's military government, which is keeping these political and union leaders in prison. [passage omitted]

The CTH is not in favor of these three men being released unconditionally, as many people are requesting. Jean Claude Lebrun says the men must go to court. He thinks that if they do not, they will not be able to sue for indemnification, which he thinks they must do in order to make the Haitian Government respect the dignity of Haitian citizens.

Regarding the political situation, Lebrun said that when the CTH engaged in dialogue, participated in the forum, and (?joined) the democratic center, the Democratic Bloc, and now the National Assemblage, it did not do so thinking a coup d'etat by one general against another was going to solve anything. Rather, CTH felt that the replacement of one de facto government by another is a reality that requires everyone to examine the situation in order to change it.

Given today's political realities, what does the CTH think?

[Begin Lebrun recording] It is clear to the CTH that despite all the efforts that have been made, despite the visits the general has paid to the different military garrisons to ask the military to remain calm, telling them they have always distinguished themselves in Haiti by

safeguarding the nation and so forth, his words are unfounded—because there have been 2 years of macoute regime out of the past 3 ½ years, (? considering) the deterioration of the population's living standards, the social deterioration, and the economic deterioration that has occurred.

We continue to believe that the solution to the present situation cannot issue from the National Palace. It must come from the Haitian people.

And how will it come from the Haitian people? Through the different responsible organizations' sitting down and reaching a consensus, whether these organizations are from the political, social, or popular sectors. We do notice that, out in the streets, a number of sectors have already taken individual positions. Some of these sectors (?propose) constitutional alternatives; others alternatives that are not constitutional but popular.

We of the CTH do not have an initiative of our own to propose. We are ready to sit down and discuss all these alternatives so together we can come up with a proposal to get the country out of the current crisis as quickly as possible, because the military has proven once again that it cannot provide a solution. Although as a union federation our battle is not that of a political party, it is our battle nevertheless to establish democracy in Haiti. No serious organization will be able to develop here unless there is democracy. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Regarding the hunger strike going on at Red Cross Headquarters to demand that the three imprisoned militants be taken to court so they can be released, CTH is preparing its own participation, said Lebrun.

[Begin Lebrun recording] The CTH staff is going to see how we ourselves can continue this movement of solidarity, this hunger strike going on at the Red Cross. We are going to see how we can, without going down to Red Cross Headquarters, organize some form of strike here at CTH Headquarters to replace the three strikers who are striking in place of Marineau, Mesyeux, and Paul. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Jamaica

Foreign Minister Calls For OAS 'United Front'

FL1511194789 Bridgetown CANA in English 1613 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] Washington, Nov 15, CANA— Jamaica's Foreign Minister David Coore told the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) on Wednesday that the "grievous problems" in the region could only be resolved through a united front.

Speaking on the situation in Panama, a subject which is attracting considerable attention at the meeting of foreign ministers at the OAS, Coore said Jamaica considered it important to maintain a firm and unequivocal stand for democracy.

So far, he said, the organization has adopted a correct and principled approach and we have every confidence that it will continue to do so."

Jamaica suspended relations with Panama's military-backed government in the aftermath of general elections in May which were nullified when the vote appeared to be going against strongman General Manuel Noriega.

Coore also addressed the situation in Central America and called "on all external interests to refrain from interfering in the process and to lend their political and civil support for its success."

Shortly before he addressed the meeting, the General Assembly approved by consensus a resolution which urgently requests all parties in the strife in El Salvador to cease hostilities.

This resolution was passed as several delegations expressed concern over the increased violence in El Salvador since the past weekend.

Coore said the OAS must press for a global debt conference to bring together the major creditor and debtor countries and the multilateral financial institutions and the major commercial banks to seek long term, global solutions to the debt crisis.

On drugs, the General Assembly said that the abuse of and illicit traffic in drugs was threatening "the stability of our societies."

Coore told the OAS meeting that regional states, united in a war on drugs, "should be able to do more than offer condolences, solidarity and adhoc measures for assistance to countries plagued by the nefarious actions of drug traffickers and their international terrorist linkages."

He also called for the establishment within the OAS of a regional programme of disaster assistance.

Netherlands Antilles

Arms Intended for Surinamese Rebels Seized

FL1711144489 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 17 Nov 89

[Text] In Aruba, authorities have seized a plane reportedly containing a shipment of arms for the Surinamese rebels. The flight originated in the Dominican Republic and was seized Tuesday night.

On board was a Dominican, a Cuban, two Dutchmen, and a spokesman for Surinamese rebel leader Ronny Brunswijk. Aruban officials believe the cash was intended for the Brunswijk rebel group which was confirmed last night on national television in Suriname when Brunswijk went on to say he had ordered the weapons.

Government Urges Resumption of Salvadoran Dialogue

PA1811141889 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 18 Nov 89

[Text] Mexico has appealed to the Salvadoran Government and to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front to immediately resume the dialogue for reconciliation that, as everyone recalls, began in Mexico and Costa Rica after having been proposed for several years by the Contadora Group.

In a communique the Mexican Government stressed the urgent need for a cease-fire and the resumption of peace talks. The Mexican Embassy is safeguarding the Mexican citizens in El Salvador and is ready to evacuate them if this should become necessary.

Soviet Officials on U.S. 'Intervention' in Panama

FL2011193189 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0112 GMT 19 Nov 89

[Text] Mexico City, 18 Nov (NOTIMEX)—Karen Jachaturov, chairman of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Latin America, asserted here today that no political argument can justify U.S. intervention in Panama. Jachaturov added that it is known worldwide that the only thing the President Bush administration wants with this interventionist attitude is to invalidate the Torrijos-Carter Treaties.

Likewise, he made a call to the U.S. Government to respect the Panama Canal treaties to the letter and hand over the canal to the Panamanians within 11 years, as established by the canal treaties.

Jachaturov said the United States applies the big stick policy in Panama so that this Central American country stops demanding the canal treaties be complied with. He asserted that in the same way the Soviet Union left Afghanistan, Cuba left Angola, and the DPRK left Cambodia, the United States should leave Central America.

Jachaturov stopped over in Mexico en route to Central America where he said closer diplomatic relations with Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Guatemala will be established. He expressed his hope that the continent may soon find the peace that has been perturbed in several countries such as El Salvador and Panama.

The closeness between the Soviet Union and the United States will help reduce and perhaps minimize conflicts in Latin America, added the Soviet official.

El Salvador

San Salvador 'Slowly Returning to Normal'

PA2011194689 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1612 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] San Salvador, 20 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Salvadoran capital, which has been the scene of fierce fighting between the Salvadoran Army and guerrillas over the past week, is slowly returning to normal. For the first time in 9 days, many businesses and workplaces opened their doors and many buses were operating. After many days in which most vehicles on the streets were ambulances, official or military vehicles, and vehicles belonging to newsmen, the capital awakened today to heavy traffic with buses, taxis, trucks, and private vehicles.

The 24-hour "curfew" decreed by the Armed Forces in the densely populated neighborhoods of Ayutuxtepeque, Cuscatancingo, and Mejicanos in the northwestern part of San Salvador was suspended, Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani announced on television last night.

The "state of siege" and "curfew," however, will remain in effect, from 1800 in the evening until 0600 in the morning.

In two outlying neighborhoods of the capital, guerrilla redoubts and soldiers have continued to clash, particularly in the neighborhoods of Apopa, Ciudad Delgado, and Soyapango.

Private vehicles cannot operate in much of Mejicanos neighborhood, one of the main guerrilla bastions last week, as a result of trenches dug by the rebels and debris piled on the streets from destroyed buildings and homes.

The situation is also returning to normal in some parts of the interior, except for some cities, such as San Miguel in the east and Zacatecoluca in the south, where there is still fierce fighting in which elite Army units are involved.

In the capital city, the Red Cross and other humanitarian assistance organizations are beginning the tasks of cleaning up the rubble and rebuilding thousands of homes affected by the fighting and bombing, according to the preliminary assessments. International Red Cross sources said that some 50,000 persons have had to abandon their homes and are lodged in churches, stadiums, schools, and other buildings set up as temporary lodgings.

International emergency assistance has also begun to arrive, bringing first aid for many civilians, who were wounded and are being treated in the hospitals where hundreds of the more than 1,000 who were treated last week remain, according to Salvadoran hospital sources.

President Alfredo Cristiano reported on a radio and television network that "a few redoubts" remain, that the Armed Forces have continued to advance, and that "the situation will be totally controlled soon."

He said that the war victims will be given economic assistance and that his cabinet will implement "reconstruction programs," with which he invited the private sector to cooperate.

The state radio is celebrating the "defeat of the red hordes" of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) in a tone of resounding victory, constantly rendering tribute to the leaders and soldiers of the battalions that have participated in expelling the guerrillas from the capital and other cities.

"The terrorists fled in disarray," according to the state radio commenting on the military situation that circles close to the FMLN interpreted as a "tactical withdrawal."

The fighting and bombings in the capital and other parts of the country have left a toll of more than 1,000 dead, hundreds wounded, and tens of thousands homeless.

Armed Forces Report 'Full Control'

PA2011195089 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1904 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] The Armed Forces maintain control in the capital. After 6 [number as heard] days of intense battles between the Army and the terrorist criminals of the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front], the Salvadoran Armed Forces have shown their professionalism by achieving total control in the capital. The locations where there were the biggest problems—the slopes of San Jacinto hill in the south and Soyapango, Ciudad Delgado, Mejicanos, and Zacamil—have been retaken by the Army during the weekend. Even though the Army had dislodged the Marxist-Leninists from Mejicanos, civilian access to that area has not been permitted, because the guerrillas mined the entrances to several neighborhoods and several houses of people who did not cooperate with them. In Ciudad Delgado, Armed Forces soldiers fought small groups of guerrillas who had hidden in houses and who put up some resistance, which was quickly controlled by the Armed Forces. The Armed Forces maintain absolute control over Amatepec and Ciudad Credisa neighborhoods.

Onward brave soldiers. Continue fighting to keep our fatherland free with guarantees for all honest Salvadorans.

FMLN Reports Intensified Fight in Zacatecoluca

PA2011211889 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1954 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] Attention, pay close attention. Radio Venceremos is now receiving a report from Zacatecoluca. Heavy fighting has been taking place since noon today in the area of the Zacatecoluca stadium.

As of noon today, Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] forces began attacking DMIFA [Armed Forces Engineers Military Detachment] positions in the area of the Zacatecoluca stadium. The enemy has fled in disarray, demoralized, leaving behind several dead and

wounded. This is a report direct from Zacatecoluca, the capital of La Paz Department, where there is intensified fighting.

Commander Reports on Fighting

PA2011213189 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1915 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] Attention, we have contacted Comrade Mayo Sibrian in Zacatecoluca, who reports on the situation there. He states that we have inflicted approximately 280 casualties on the DMIFA [Armed Forces Engineers Military Detachment] and 5th Infantry Brigade during the past days, and have captured 17 weapons, including M-16 machine guns and other types of rifles. We have annihiliated troops who were either in fixed positions or moving in Zacatecoluca. We have other reports from Zacatecoluca. Let's listen to Commander Mayo Sibrian, who will report from the central front of the country. Go ahead, Zacatecoluca.

[Begin Sibrian recording] I want to tell the people the truth of what is happening in Zacatecoluca, La Paz Department. In what used to be the hospital of Zacatecoluca, [words indistinct] the DMIFA turned it into a military base and a communications relay center. Our military forces will fight against that military base there. In what used to be the Santa Teresa Hospital, there is no medical staff or paramedical staff. There are no installations there that meet the social requirements of a medical installation for the sake of the people's health.

We want to raise these charges so that the national and international community will understand that the government [words indistinct] has turned a hospital into a military base, and is thus denying the people their right to medical assistance. That is one of the reasons we are fighting against this regime, as the people do not receive medical attention. We know that [words indistinct] the power of the oligarchy.

We have evaluated the fighting that has taken place in Zacatecoluca as follows:

We have inflicted an average of 265 [as heard] casualties on DMIFA and the 5th Infantry Brigade. We have annihiliated [words indistinct]. One of them is the commando groups and the caymanes groups. We must annihiliate the intruders [words indistinct].

In these (?8) days of combat, we have also seized an average of 14 weapons, including M-16 rifles, M-14 carbines, ammunition, and other supplies. We have also annihiliated [words indistinct] of the DMIFA troops. [passage indistinct] After 8 days of combat, the Jiboa Battalion has had to bring in a third company. They have also brought in troops from the Nonualco Battalion.

We can conclude by saying that [words indistinct] army has been defeated from the very beginning. In the second place, [passage indistinct]. [end recording]

That was Comrade Mayo Sibrian reporting on the 14 weapons captured, including M-16 rifles, carbines, and other weapons captured in Zacatecoluca. He also reported on the casualties inflicted by our forces on the DMIFA and the 5th Infantry Brigade. He also reported on the annihiliation of two [word indistinct] sections of DMIFA during the guerrilla offensive in La Paz Department. It was precisely there, where the Comalapa Airport was attacked the night we began the offensive.

Comrade Mayo Sibrian also told us about the morale of the enemy troops of DMIFA and the 5th Infantry Brigade, who have been constantly attacked since Saturday, 11 November. He also told us that the Zacatecoluca Hospital is no longer serving as a hospital and has been turned into a military base for that department. Our forces continue advancing, and we will continue advancing with the people until we get La Tandona and the death squad members out.

FMLN Reports on Fighting in Capital

PA2111145389 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1316 GMT 21 Nov 89

[Text] We have just been informed that heavy fighting is taking place in San Salvador. Pay close attention. Clashes are taking place in the Escalon and San Benito neighborhoods.

Your attention please. Radio Venceremos has just received reports on clashes in the Escalon and San Benito neighborhoods. There is antiaircraft fire in the skies of San Salvador. Forces of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] at this very moment are repelling Air Force helicopters overflying the San Benito and Escalon neighborhoods, where heavy fighting is taking place at this time of the morning. It is now 0637.

We have been informed that clashes are taking place in the Escalon and San Benito neighborhoods, the oligarchy's exclusive residential areas.

This is Radio Venceremos. This is the information we have at this time. At 0637, clashes are taking place in the residential areas where the ranking military leaders and oligarchs live. It is now 6 hours, 37 minutes, 37 seconds, the hour of emergent power in El Salvador. Radio Venceremos has contacted San Salvador in order to give our people precise information on strong clashes taking place at this time in the Escalon and San Benito neighborhoods in the western side of the capital, an oligarchic exclusive zone.

Since 0500 today, clashes have intensified between FMLN and dictatorship troops. Our companeros in that area have reported that FMLN forces are repelling Air Force helicopters overflying FMLN positions in the Escalon and San Benito neighborhoods with M-60 machineguns.

This is a last-minute report received by Radio Vencermos from the capital. Attention, companeros of Radio

Farabundo Marti, this is the preliminary information we have. We are contacting El Salvador at this time to give our people more information on the development of this national offensive against fascism, an offensive with no turning back, an offensive toward taking over power!

Heavy clashes are taking place right now in Escalon and San Benito residential areas. There is no going back. We have broken the defensive lines of the enemy. We have broken [words indistinct] in the capital city; we are fighting in front of the dens of Colonel Ponce and other officers who have turned the war into a business. Those officers have luxurious mansions in Miami. Every weekend and even in spite of the war, Col Ponce has orgies in his luxurious homes in the country's interior. Soldiers, patriotic officers, we call on you to join the people and join our front. Patriotic officers, who are listening to us, do not allow more bombings in our capital city by the genocidal Tandona group [1966 graduating class of the Capt Gen Gerardo Barrios Military School]. Young officers, lieutenants who are being killed in the residential areas and neighborhoods of the capital city, why should you be killed while defending Ponce's mansions? This is the last scenario of the last chapter in which the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] will achieve the victory of the people. We call on your conscience, young patriotic officers.

Just look at what happened in the bombings of Zacamil. Over 500 homes were razed. Are you going to allow the High Command to finish off the city, to finish off the neighborhoods and residential areas where your relatives might be? You saw what happened in Zacamil, Mejicanos, Soyapango. Patriotic officer, it is time we sit down to talk, to see what we can do with our fatherland, and what are we going to do with La Tandona. Patriotic officers who are listening to us: It is useless to continue defending; to continue defending what, we ask you. The fatherland? What fatherland? The fatherland you are told you are defending are the millions and the mansions of Col Ponce and of Col Elena Fuentes. Patriotic officers: The time is here, take one step forward.

We have more reports from San Salvador: Early this morning, combat resumed in the following places: Escalon, San Benito, and La Sultana residential areas. These attacks are against the soldiers from Military Detachment No 6 and the Cavalry. Combats are also reported north of Ayutuxtepeque, against soldiers from the 4th and 1st Infantry Brigade. There are also clashes in the area of Metropolis and Zacamil neighborhoods against soldiers from the Bracamonte Battalion.

It is important to point out that in San Benito and La Sultana residential areas, we are fighting against soldiers from Sonsonate, and not from San Salvador. The soldiers are from Military Detachment No 6 of Sonsonate. Troops from Sonsonate have been brought into San Salvador, because the high command has lost control of the situation. In other words, there is a mixture of soldiers from all parts of the country in the capital city. This has yielded negative results for the high command.

In the capital city, there have been clashes between the Atlacatl Battalion and the National Police, and the National Guard has attacked troops from Military Detachment No 6. These are little soldiers from Sonsonate who have been brought into the capital city, and they are not familiar with the city. They are clashing against each other.

Clashes are also reported with the 4th Infantry Brigade and the 1st Infantry Brigade in Ayutuxtepeque. In other words, the 4th Infantry Brigade is fighting in Ayutuxtepeque. What will happen in the interior of the country? The garrisons have been left empty. The San Francisco Gotera garrison has been left without anyone. The 4th Infantry Brigade is being left by itself, as well as the Military Detachment No 1. The colonels are desperate and are bringing troops into the capital city.

This is a good report. The 4th Infantry Brigade and Military Detachment No 6 are in the capital. This is the situation on this morning of victorious battles. Who would believe it? The Sonsonate soldiers are fighting in the capital city. This gives us a general picture of the defeat. If the Sonsonate troops are fighting in the last defensive line, this means that the Sonsonate lines have been wiped out.

Attention, FMLN antiaircraft units have opened fire with their M-60 machineguns against UH-1H helicopters that are flying over the residential areas of the oligarchy. Likewise, a helicopter is right now flying over the Armed Forces General Staff offices. FMLN units are firing their antiaircraft weapons in the Escalon residential area.

Venceremos Reports Spain's Suspension of Aid

PA2111011289 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0001 GMT 21 Nov 89

[Text] We have a report from Spain. Aid to El Salvador has been suspended. Attention: The Spanish Government has suspended its aid to the Salvadoran Government.

Spanish Foreign Minister Luis Yanez [as heard] reported today that Spain has suspended aid to the Salvadoran Government until the killings of the Spanish Jesuits, who had been living in our country for years, are resolved.

This report represents a serious political setback for the Alfredo Cristiani government. The Spanish Government's decision further isolates the Salvadoran Government, which is already under pressure because of calls in the United States for the suspension of military aid. This suspension represents a halt in the delivery of millions of dollars from the Spanish Government to Salvadoran Government.

This represents international isolation. The international isolation of the Cristiani regime is growing.

Spanish Peace Brigade Members Ordered To Leave

PA2111040889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2222 GMT 21 Nov 89

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The three Spanish members of the International Peace Brigades, freed today by the Salvadoran National Guard, said that the authorities ordered them to leave the country because they were suspected of collaborating with "terrorist delinquents."

"We are being thrown out of the country," said Frances Riera, one of the Spaniards detained this morning together with his fellow countrymen Esther Domenech and Luis Perez, a Guatemalan seeking refuge at the Episcopal Church, and another three foreigners—a Colombian, a Canadian, and an American.

Riera said they were detained at 1005 GMT, while the city was "under curfew" and under a "state of siege," and that National Guard members "knocked on the door, entered, separated us, took the foreigners aside, and delivered us an anticommunist harangue."

"They told us they were arresting us for our own protection because foreigners were being threatened by terrorist delinquents. At the National Guard we were made to sign a statement in which we appear as suspects of collaborating with terrorist delinquents," Riera added.

The three Spaniards are at the Spanish Embassy, after Ambassador Francisco Cadiz immediately went into action to get them freed.

A total of 15 people were detained, 9 of them Salvadorans, and we "know nothing of their whereabouts," Riera said. He added that they had remained in detention for over 1 hour, stressing that "we were never mistreated nor were we asked any questions."

Riera said that there are more than 135 people at the Episcopal Church who were left homeless by the war, and more are expected today.

"People have to remain there (at the Episcopal Church) because they have no place to go. There are no places left after the Salvadoran Air Force bombings," Riera stressed.

He added that the church "has evidence that whole neighborhoods were set on fire."

Riera reported that at the end of August "armed men, dressed in military uniforms," entered his home and "intimidated us."

The three freed Spaniards will return as soon as possible to Madrid, via Guatemala, a spokesman for the Spanish Embassy in San Salvador reported.

URNG Condemns Guatemalan 'Interference'

PA1811030389 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0111 GMT 18 Nov 89

["Statement" issued by the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity General Command in Guatemala on 17 November]

[Text] We condemn Guatemalan interference in El Salvador.

The Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG] General Command expresses its profound solidarity and admiration for the Salvadoran people and their vanguard forces, the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front], who with great heroism and determination, are writing one of the most glorious pages in Salvadoran history.

With deep indignation, we have seen how the members of La Tandona, [members of the 1966 graduating class of the Captain Gerardo Barrios Military Academy] and the ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] government headed by President Cristiani have decided to conduct and maintain massive bombings against the defenseless civilian population, thus sowing death, slaughtering, and destroying, in view of their inability to defeat, dislodge, or contain the heroic FMLN fighters.

Cristiani's government and the Salvadoran Army have lost control over their actions because of their desperation over the FMLN's victorious advance. The FMLN forces have not only maintained their positions, but have also increased them in San Salvador and throughout the remaining Salvadoran territory.

Acting out of revenge, Cristiani's government and the Salvadoran Army began a series of criminal actions aimed at all those who have identified themselves with the fair causes of the Salvadoran majority. As a result, early on the morning of 16 November, six Jesuit priests and two humble women who worked with them were brutally murdered.

We share the enormous pain of the Salvadoran people and that of the Jesuit communities. We add our protest to the voices of all those who have protested against such a vile murder.

The URNG General Command vigorously condemns those actions and calls on the Guatemalan people and on all political, social, democratic, and religious organizations to express themselves against those barbaric and genocidal actions, which can only be compared to the actions carried out by the United States in Vietnam and the Nazis during World War II.

In our statement issued on 13 November, we reported the interventionist plans of the Guatemalan Army against our fraternal nation, El Salvador. According to reports released by press agencies on 15 November, 126 Guatemalan Army men belonging to special troops called (Saibiles), who characterized themselves for their

pathologic savagery, were deployed. [sentence as heard] President Cerezo, the chief of the Guatemalan General Staff, and the Guatemalan Army official spokesman have already publicly expressed their solidarity and support for Cristiani.

We vigorously condemn the interference of the Guatemalan Army against the glorious Salvadoran people. We call on all Guatemalan groups to protest that interference. We will make the Guatemalan Government and Army pay a very high price for this aggression against the fraternal Salvadoran people.

We warn the world that a genocide larger than the one which has already occurred is being conducted in El Salvador now. We are sure the Salvadoran people will defeat all their enemies; that they will be the winners of this historic struggle, and that they will achieve their goals.

The blood that has been shed will turn into new life. The Salvadoran people will undoubtedly achieve their goals of freedom, democracy, and peace.
Guatemala, 17 November 1989
URNG General Command
[Signed] Commander Rolando Moran
Commander Gaspar Ilom
Commander Pablo Monsanto
Carlos Gonzalez, PGT [Guatemalan Labor Party] secretary general

FMLN Denies Holding Foreigners Hostage

PA2111153089 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1500 GMT 21 Nov 89

[Text] We have seen dispatches released by U.S. news agencies reporting that the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] has taken hostages. The FMLN does not take hostages; our actions are not against foreigners. Therefore, no hostages have been taken. The FMLN ensures the safety of all foreigners who may be trapped in the areas of conflict areas throughout the country. The FMLN does not take hostages; it is not the way the FMLN operates. Therefore, once and for all we wish to state that there are no foreigners being held hostage by the FMLN. The FMLN does not take hostages. Therefore, the information being released by the U.S. news agencies is not true. The FMLN does not take hostages. There is no reason why we should take hostages, we are not terrorists. We do not hold foreigners hostage as some U.S. news agencies are reporting.

We will be releasing a communique on this matter shortly. However, we wish to state that the FMLN does not take hostages. The foreign dispatches released are groundless. The dispatches state that the FMLN is holding foreigners hostage. That is not true; we do not take hostages, it is not our policy. We are clarifying this for the diplomatic corps and international community. We do not want them to be caught off guard by the information being released by foreign news agencies.

There are no hostages, taking hostages is not our policy. If a foreign citizen—U.S. citizen or any other foreigner—is trapped in areas of conflict, the FMLN will ensure his safety. Our fighters have been ordered to protect the physical integrity of any citizen affected by the current situation in El Salvador.

We wish to be very clear that there are no hostages, it is not the FMLN policy to hold hostages.

Treasury Police Director: 12 Foreigners Released

PA1911180689 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1433 GMT 19 Nov 89

[Report on interview with Treasury Police Director Colonel Hector Heriberto Hernandez by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Treasury Police Director Colonel Hector Heriberto Hernandez has said that the morale at the Treasury Police is at the highest level to wipe out the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] terrorists

[Hernandez] [Words indistinct] "to give security and not to harm civilians. At this time we are sending our troops there [not further identified] because it is necessary that terrorists see the force, the strengthen, and fighting spirit that the [words indistinct]."

After sending troops to provide protection to civilians, Colonel Hernandez said foreigners who had been arrested and were at the Treasury Police offices have been released.

[Hernandez] "The National Guard arrested 12 foreigners in 5 November neighborhood. Following orders from the Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff, all foreigners under arrest were transfered to the Treasury Police for questioning. Regarding the foreigners arrested by the National Guard in 5 November neighborhood, I can report to you that we have questioned them and found that they were not linked with terrorist groups. However, those foreigners were turned over to the respective consuls. As a preventive measure, they were asked to leave the country to avoid further incidents."

The high-ranking military leader said he was pleased by the professional work carried out by all the Treasury Police in repelling FMLN terrorist aggression.

[Hernandez] "I am fully satisfied by the Treasury Police work. All the times that our men have gone into the field to fight the enemy, they have responded as true Salvadorans, belonging to an Armed Forces that is professional, brave, and has a patriotic spirit."

Col Hernandez said that like all Salvadoran Armed Forces troops, the Treasury Police is fighting the enemies of freedom with high spirits.

[Hernandez] "The Treasury Police always keep their spirits high, they always try to fulfill their duty, serving their fatherland and their people."

[Reporter] What message do you have for the Salvadoran people?

[Hernandez] "Have patience, help us with information to wipe out once and for all the terrorists groups that are not only here in San Salvador but throughout the country. This way, we will wipe them out very soon."

Opposition, Labor Propose 'Salvation Junta'

PA1711220789 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1945 GMT 17 Nov 89

[Text] San Salvador, 17 November, INTERPRESS AGENCY [IPS]—The Salvadoran opposition political parties and the people's organizations today proposed the creation of a Salvation Junta that would include the Army and the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front], Humberto Centeno—leader of the opposition National Union of Salvadoran Workers [UNTS]—has announced. In statements to IPS, Centeno said the FMLN has already said it is willing to join the country's political life, and that it is willing to be a part of a Salvation Junta as a solution to the national crisis.

The UNTS' proposal was supported by Fidel Chavez Mena, Christian Democratic Party [PDC] national secretary and president of the Latin American Christian Democratic Organization, in statements to the press. Chavez Mena, who was the PDC presidential candidate in the past elections, said that one of the ways to solve the civil war problem would be for the government to rectify its stand and initiate new negotiations. We should all sit down to find a solution, he told newsmen, adding that neither side will achieve a military victory.

Meanwhile, Centeno stated that the bombings in densely populated areas and the murder of six Jesuit priests are factors that are wearing out the government and the Armed Forces High Command. According to the labor leader, none of the social forces with any representative force support Alfredo Cristiani and his government.

Although there is not a general consensus, the political and labor groups have said they are in favor of a negotiated solution and the resumption of a dialogue with the presence of the OAS and the United Nations as well as the Central American presidents as guarantors of the agreements. However, the petition might not be received well by a government that is apparently not willing to negotiate a cease-fire with the rebels who continue occupying the neighborhoods in the northern area of the capital city.

FMLN's Commander Roca Interviewed on Struggle

PA1911230289 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1940 GMT 19 Nov 89

[Interview with Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front—FMLN—Commander Roberto Roca by unidentified reporter; place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Commander Roberto Roca, the repercussions of the Jesuits' [words indistinct] were not long in coming. One of the most significant ones was the editorial of an important U.S. newspaper, THE NEW YORK TIMES, on 18 November. The editorial says, among other things, that if President Alfredo Cristiani does not order a quick, thorough, and genuine investigation to catch the assassins, he might lose U.S. economic aid.

The editorial also states the Democrats in Congress have said that the military aid should be suspended if El Salvador cannot control and punish the death squads. They add that if he does not heed the warning, the next statement might be issued by both parties. What are the implications of this important statement by an influential U.S. newspaper for Cristiani's government and the Salvadoran Armed Forces?

[Roca] Actually, THE NEW YORK TIMES states the feeling pervading the entire United States. It is a way of confirming that the fascist groups prevail within the government and ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance], and they are deciding the regime's policies. Political opinion in the United States has undoubtedly been shaken by this massacre planned by Alfredo Cristiani's government.

We believe that U.S. politicians will progressively come to support the U.S. people's feelings and will demand that Cristiani's Government order the investigation. We know that this will not be easy in El Salvador, because, as the editorial points out, similar assassinations have been perpetrated innumerable times. These cases have been surrounded by absolute secrecy; no culprits are found; and witnesses have testified many times that the actions were carried out by Armed Forces members, either dressed as civilians or in uniform. However, the policy of the Armed Forces and the government protects the culprits.

We believe that this civilian assassination, meaning the assassination of the Jesuit priests, the fact that practically all the leaders of the labor movement were sought out that same night to be killed, plus the fact that the killing of the cooperative members was carried out within the framework of the great battles being fought in El Salvador's urban areas, will eventually convince U.S. politicians that the government they have been supporting is clearly a fascist government which has absolutely no interest in any kind of democratic consolidation.

Real life is making it evident that in El Salvador we must find a democratic solution to the terrible crisis being

endured—to the war. This democratic solution means isolating and excluding the fascists from power because they are against democracy.

Mr Cristiani cannot say under these circumstances that he shares no responsibility in the murder of the Jesuits. In the framework of his frustrated attempt to stop the guerrilla offensive, he unleashed the dogs of war—all the fascist elements—so that they would commit all the outrages they have committed. This includes the fascist elements in the Air Force and their indiscriminate bombing of the civilian population. This also includes the death squads, who were unleashed so they would murder people who best express the democratic feelings of the people and, as in the case of the Jesuit priests, to eliminate a valuable sector of the Salvadoran intelligentsia at the service of democracy and social justice.

As we all know, the Jesuits had continuously denounced the unjust system in El Salvador and had called for clearing up all crimes. The fascists, in their hatred, put an end to the lives of these Jesuits believing that they could hide the sun with one finger. The indignation of the Salvadoran people will be increasingly backed by the U.S. people as a result of their indignation and by U.S. politicians who have become aware of the fact that it is necessary to put an end to fascist outrages in El Salvador. The fascists represent a barrier that must be destroyed and defeated to have democracy in El Salvador.

[Reporter] Commander, if the United States decided to cut off military and economic aid to the Salvadoran Government, what impact would this have on the Armed Forces?

[Roca] We have said on many occasions that the Salvadoran Armed Forces would have lost the war some time ago were it not for U.S. support and financing. As we have stated in all our proposals for a political solution, our objective is neither the destruction nor the elimination of the Armed Forces. What we want is for the Armed Forces to get rid of the fascist elements that have turned it into a tool against the people and democracy.

We believe that sensible Salvadoran Armed Forces officers, those who have not lost their heads, must take into consideration [words indistinct] indiscriminate bombing, the political defeat of the Cristiani government, and the military defeat of the methods and tactics [words indistinct].

The guerrilla offensive has not been defeated and cannot be defeated. International reports indicate that the revolutionary forces have become strong in the city, that they are making tactical movements, and that in spite of the barbarism with which the Armed Forces has been operating, the guerrillas maintain all of their operational capabilities.

The situation cannot defeat us. There must be a solution, and the Salvadoran people are increasingly, and in different ways, becoming involved in the revolutionary process to defeat the fascists and the genocidal tactics they are using.

We believe that what is happening is having an impact on international public opinion, and this undoubtedly will have an effect on the Armed Forces and could result in an effort to save the institution.

We believe that in the Armed Forces there are officers and soldiers who reject fascism. There have been many desertions in the Army files. Many orders are being disobeyed, orders of a genocidal nature usually. This is the starting point of an event that will stun political opinion in El Salvador.

We believe that if this savage killing of people does not stop, the military institution will be signing its own death sentence. The people cannot tolerate a military that functions under a most savage and despotic regime, and the Cristiani government is in hot water, we could say.

The revolutionary offensive, as I have noted, is being developed. We have solid positions in four of El Salvador's main cities, and as we have said before: No one is going to push us out. Victory for democracy has been assured. The world will back us in the face of the savage genocide by the government forces, especially by the fascist military elements in El Salvador.

[Reporter] To conclude, Commander, the funeral rites for the priests who were murdered in San Salvador are taking place at this moment, around noon time, and Alfredo Cristiani and his wife are attending this ceremony. Do you have any message for the Salvadoran people, for the students from the Catholic university, for the Christian people, for the people in general, who are mourning the death of these worthy Jesuits?

[Roca] We have already expressed, and I will reiterate it now, the deep sorrow of the FMLN militants and the people in general over the loss of these worthy Jesuit priests who have been consistent strugglers for democracy and peace in El Salvador. We share the feelings of the Salvadoran religious community.

I would like to note that the presence of Cristiani at the burial for the Jesuit priests calls for a national and international outcry in demand for punishment for the persons responsible for this atrocious assassination.

Cristiani cannot go to that burial and do nothing about people to whom he opened doors so that they could commit these killings. Everybody must demand that Cristiani respond to the people's indignation by punishing the persons responsible for the crime. Cristiani cannot speak about having moral authority for attending that burial unless he punishes the people who are responsible. It is not enough to punish the assassins. There must be a thorough investigation of the wave of crime that has been unleashed in El Salvador. The most notorious crime has been the killing of the Jesuit priests, but in the past 8 days many common people and community

leaders have also been murdered. The bombing has been intense. The Salvadoran people are enduring much pain and they demand that the people responsible for it be punished.

We again reiterate the pain of the people over the death of the Jesuit priests. We believe that the Catholic Church must bravely and loudly demand justice in the face of these crimes.

Interview With FMLN' Salvador Samayoa

PA2011002189 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1840 GMT 19 Nov 89

[Interview with Salvador Samayoa, member of the political and diplomatic commission of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front-Democratic Revolutionary Front, FMLN-FDR, by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Comrade Salvador Samayoa, we have heard reports on statements by the U.S. ambassador in San Salvador, William Walker, who said that despite the bombings his government, the Bush Administration, will continue giving military aid and support to the Cristiani Government. However, it seems the situation has changed following the assassination of the Jesuits. At this moment, how does the United States perceive the new situation in El Salvador?

[Samayoa] At the level of the U.S. people, there is a total repudiation of the fascist criminal government and of the Salvadoran Armed Forces because of the bombings—which have become a true genocide—in various densely populated cities and neighborhoods in El Salvador, as well as because of the assassinations perpetrated by the Salvadoran Army against the Jesuit priests at the Central American University [UCA]. There have been very radical demonstrations expressing much indignation by various U.S. social sectors. Moreover, in some of those demonstrations, police barricades were broken. Important U.S. political personalities such as Jesse Jackson, one of the most prestigious leaders in the United States, participated in the demonstrations. There have also been demonstrations in Boston, Chicago, New York, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. In at least 20 cities in the United States people have expressed all their repudiation and indignation over the Cristiani Government and the U.S. policy in El Salvador.

Since the assassination of the UCA priests, a large number of important U.S. senators and representatives are saying that U.S. military aid to the Salvadoran Armed Forces and Government should be cut and suspended. Senator Kennedy in particular made a very strong statement, saying the Salvadoran Armed Forces' attitude simply expresses the failure of 10 years of U.S. policy—which has been spent feeding, training, arming, and financing an armed force that carries out assassinations. In addition to Senator Kennedy, there are many U.S. senators and congressmen who are requesting the total suspension of military aid to El Salvador. At this time, the Cristiani government and Armed Forces have the highest level of repudiation in the United States in the past 10 years. However, the U.S. Government, [words indistinct] the State Department, and the White House continue supporting the [Salvadoran] criminal regime and giving it further emergency aid.

[Reporter] Comrade, yesterday we learned about articles published in the main U.S. newspapers THE NEW YORK TIMES and THE WASHINGTON POST, which strongly question the government, specifically President Cristiani, the chief of the fascist dictatorship. What is the situation of the Cristiani speech and his alleged legitimacy, not only in the United States but also at the level of the European community?

[Samayoa] The alleged legitimacy of Cristiani collapsed. In the United States, they said Cristiani was [words indistinct] had good intentions, but the right-wing [words indistinct] and the death squads did not let him (?work). The speech failed because it is now clear that as commander in chief of the Armed Forces, Cristiani is responsible for the genocide in San Salvador and other departments in the country [words indistinct]. The (?media) have also reported the arrest of U.S. religious men and of (?Swiss), French, Spanish, and Japanese citizens. The Salvadoran Government is a government accusing everyone of cooperating with the guerrillas, and this has caused a total loss of government prestige. Editorials on 18 November in the main U.S. newspapers [words indistinct] Cristiani is not more than [words indistinct]. At embassies and consulates in most countries in Western Europe—in Italy, Spain, the FRG, France, Sweden, Denmark and everywhere—there have been demonstrations called by labor unions, political parties, and people's movements in those countries to express repudiation. In London, one of the most prestigious human rights organizations, Amnesty International, urged everyone to stage demonstrations in front of all Salvadoran embassies and consulates.

Therefore, the Western European press, political parties, labor unions, and general public are very strongly rejecting Cristiani's regime. The congresses and parliaments of many Western European countries are saying that the cooperation the Salvadoran regime receives should be reevaluated.

[Reporter] Comrade Salvador Samayoa, the government network is reporting that U.S. aid to Cristiani will continue. The colonels have also said that the FMLN cannot defeat the Armed Forces because the latter has military and economic aid from the U.S. Government. Returning to this point, Comrade Samayoa, what is your view? What options does the U.S. Government have concerning El Salvador, and what impact has the new situation had on U.S. policy toward El Salvador?

[Samayoa] As I said, the U.S. Government must take into consideration that a new internal situation of generalized popular, political, and social discontent is taking shape, and that from this moment on its policy in El

Salvador will undergo isolation and be rejected by the American people, and even by very important sectors within the House and Senate.

So far, the U.S. Administration has stubbornly continued providing aid and support to a regime that is obviously criminal and genocidal, and that policy is [words indistinct] currently a very strong debate in the United States. The options available to the U.S. Government are to sink with the Cristiani regime, which is obviously moving toward defeat and military and political destruction despite all the propaganda it has made, or to change its opinion while there is still time. The alternative of a change of government, a replacement of Cristiani's regime or the military hierarchy, is already under discussion. These, therefore, are the two alternatives available to the United States: either change its policy in time and replace Cristiani, or the government will sink because its propaganda is not working.

The U.S. ambassador has made a fool of himself. He said the guerrillas had 1,500 men in San Salvador, and he has listed casualty figures according to which the FMLN suffered over 500 deaths, over 400 wounded, and others captured. According to the figures quoted by the U.S. ambassador, who provides government war bulletins and has almost become the Salvadoran defense minister, the FMLN only has 200 men left in San Salvador.

What I find inexplicable is the government's need to use 40 or 50 war planes and helicopters, along with its artillery and elite battalions, to bomb and destroy cities, especially San Salvador. That is why their propaganda has backfired on them. In the United States the press and general public know full well that the FMLN offensive is in full force and is moving forward, and that U.S. policy is reaching the point of total failure.

[Reporter] To conclude, Comrade Samayoa, what is your message on Radio Venceremos to the comrades who have maintained their positions in San Salvador, San Miguel, Zacatecoluca, Usulutan, and various points of the national territory? What is your message to the fighters and the people?

[Samayoa] To all the comrades who are fighting in trenches throughout the length and breadth of our country, I must say that the affection and admiration you have generated throughout the world, the solidarity with your struggle, and the surprising strength and heroism you have displayed are now receiving support from almost all of the countries of the world. Therefore, our struggle not only is not alone, but it has now achieved maximum support from all types: political, material, economic. Solidarity has multiplied hundredfold over the past few days, and it will be an inexhaustible source of support that will contribute to completing the fascist regime's destruction. The people of the world admire the struggle the comrades and fighters in all the cities in this country are waging, and they very clearly understand that the struggle is for a just cause and against a completely illegitimate, fascist, and criminal regime.

The comrades can rest assured of this international support, which is currently very great. It is (?impressive) to see all of the affection and admiration that our fighters are receiving from all over the world.

[Reporter] Thank you very much, Salvador. Our greetings to all the other comrades.

[Samayoa] Thank you, [words indistinct]. Thank you very much.

FMLN's Ana Maria Guadalupe Interviewed

PM1711115489 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 10 Nov 89 p 16

[Interview with Farabundo Marti Liberation Front Commander Ana Maria Guadalupe Martinez by Alberto Flores d'Arcais in Italy—date not given]

[Excerpt] Rome—[Passage omitted] [Flores] Are you really willing to abandon the armed struggle?

[Guadalupe] For us the principal point of the dialogue concerns El Salvador's democratization. We have given up asking for a share in power and also to be embodied in the regular army. But El Salvador must become a truly democratic state, with free elections, human rights observance, greater social equality, and—above all—freedom from the tutelage of the Army, which is this country's real master. We really want the war to end, but we cannot allow things to remain as they are, because within a couple of years there would be another civil war.

[Flores] President Cristiani has already said that to proceed from the dialogue to negotiations you must lay down your arms. What is your reply?

[Guadalupe] Cristiani is doing his utmost to make the dialogue fail, but the situation that has come about in El Salvador since the March elections, the increasingly indiscriminate repression, the return of the death squads, and above all the new international climate will force the government to negotiate.

[Flores] You say that the Army is El Salvador's master. Is it involved in the dialogue, too?

[Guadalupe] Not officially, but in practice, yes.

[Flores] What specifically are you requesting from the Armed Forces?

[Guadalupe] That the Army be "purged" of the elements linked to the death squads, of the officers unwilling to relinquish the Armed Forces' leading role. We are requesting the creation of a police body independent of the Defense Ministry and the approval of a law to punish human rights violations.

[Flores] You have presented a list of officers to be purged. How do you believe the Army could accept it?

[Guadalupe] There are already two precedents. The first was in October 1979, when 43 officers, including Major D'Aubuisson, were forced to resign. The second was in January 1983, when then American Vice President Bush came to El Salvador with a list of officers specifically implicated in illegal acts.

[Flores] You are now conducting a dialogue with a right-wing government. Do you not believe that you missed a historic opportunity by failing to reach an accord with Duarte's Christian Democratic government?

[Guadalupe] No, because even if the Christian Democratic Party is reformist, Duarte's government was overtly antirebel, that is, its sole policy was to destroy the FMLN.

[Flores] You are calling for another election. Do you really believe you can win it?

[Guadalupe] If a free and democratic election is held, we believe it is possible.

[Flores] If you do win, what is your platform?

[Guadalupe] The platform that we will present is the same as in the negotiations. Some oppose it, saying that it is reformist...

[Flores] Even within the front?

[Guadalupe] No, this is the front's proposal, and it is backed by other left-wing forces in El Salvador and other Latin American countries. However, it is the only proposal, the most realistic that we can make. We want a stable democracy for El Salvador,and extremism undoubtedly brings instability. Our platform is also backed by the Christian Democrat rank and file.

[Flores] Until the latest election the Christian Democratic Party was your main enemy.

[Guadalupe] At that time they were in government, and it was an antirebel government. Now that they are not in government the antirebel sector has virtually disappeared, leaving the reformist sector, which, like us, wants pluralism, reforms, democracy, and human rights observance.

[Flores] You used to talk about revolution, now you talk about democracy. How much has the crisis of communism influenced your decisions?

[Guadalupe] The front as such has never had direct relations with the USSR. Obviously the new U.S.-USSR relations have helped us to reflect also on the significance of revolution in Latin America.

[Flores] The United States considers the Cristiani government to be democratic. What prompts you to believe that it will change its mind?

[Guadalupe] The United States plays a crucial role in our country. Some people within the Bush administration realize that the U.S. strategy in Latin America is a losing one. Then there is the matter of the officials who have disgraced themselves with crimes against human rights. If the White House decides that these officials are an obstacle to democracy it will ask Cristiani to get rid of them, and he will do so.

Attorney General's Warning to Bishops

PA2011155289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1402 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] San Salvador, 20 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Eduardo Colorado, attorney general of El Salvador, stated today that there is a plan, possibly prepared by the guerrillas, to attack Salvadoran bishops and "create greater problems for the government" of Alfredo Cristiani.

In a news conference, the official said that "it would be advisable for the bishops to leave the country or not appear in public."

Colorado, who did not want want to provide further details about the alleged plan, said that the main target might be Monsignor Gregorio Rosa Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, since several of his relatives are guerrillas.

The attorney general did not rule out the possibility that persons who have lost relatives in the war "might carry out the plan" that "might be organized by the terrorists to create a greater crises for the government."

The attorney general said he sent a letter to Pope John Paul II asking him to remove from the country the bishops who reportedly support the so-called "people's church." According to Colorado, this "people's church" is responsible in part for the violence in the country.

He did not specify which bishops are mentioned in the letter sent to the pope, but various sources insist he is referring to Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas and Auxiliary Bishop Rosa Chavez, who support a political solution to the conflict in the country.

In the letter, the attorney general suggests that Pope John Paul II remove these Salvadoran bishops since, he insists, "it is 1,000 times better to prevent these incidents than to have to investigate them."

The attorney general's letter to the pope was sent 2 days after six Jesuits (five Spaniards and one Salvadoran) and two women were killed in San Salvador by a group of 30 to 40 men wearing military uniforms, according to witnesses.

* Chilling of Church-Government Relations Noted

90EM0026A Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 12 Oct 89 p 12

[Article by Ferry Versteeg]

[Text] San Salvador—That relations between church and state in El Salvador would not be entering a flourishing period with the departure of Duarte's Christian Democrats and the coming of a right-wing ARENA (National Republican Alliance) government, was a foregone conclusion. Was not ARENA founder and present Honorary Chairman Roberto d'Aubuisson widely regarded as the brains behind the murder of Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero in 1980? And was not Jose Franco Guerrero—the man who as attorney-general had routinely hushed up all accusations against d'Aubuisson—the name of the personal secretary of Alfredo Cristiani, the new ARENA president? And conversely: Had not El Salvador—in conservative and reactionary manner—for years regarded the Roman Catholic hierarchy as the advance men of leftist subversion?

The chill in the relationship became immediately apparent when the late Romero's successor, Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas, failed to appear at Alfredo Cristiani's inauguration as president. The church leader rarely missed an opportunity thereafter to denounce the new government's neoliberal economic policy "in which man is not the focus." The archbishop also repeatedly warned against repressive legislative proposals by the new regime and he noted "the numerous complaints that we are receiving about arrests of members of popular movements." At the same time a flood of complaints began from church organizations and lay workers "in the field" about growing opposition on the part of the authorities and violence by paramilitary groups. In turn, big-wigs of the ruling ARENA and high-ranking military officers accused "sectors of the church" of supporting the leftist Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN). "Tutela Legal," the human rights organization of the archdiocese of San Salvador, was called in an official military communique "a front group for the guerrilla movement" that "is conducting a smear campaign against the government and the armed forces." Colonel Orlando Zepeda, associated with the supreme military command, averred that the (Jesuit) University of Central America is a stronghold for urban guerrilla groups. Shortly thereafter the publishing house of this famous educational institution—the only one in the country—was damaged in a bomb attack. Vice President Francisco Merino, a kindred spirit to d'Aubuisson, accused foreign priests on television of having subversive tendencies while the government-oriented press attacked the archbishop's right-hand man, Monsignor Rosa Chavez, whose brother is allegedly a guerrilla figther.

That it has not yet come to a public confrontation between church and state, however, is not just due to Archbishop Rivera y Damas' low-key stance, but also to the comparative moderation of President Cristiani, who apparently fears the costs of a harsh confrontation with the church. Thus, the latter gave assurances last month that "We have no problems with the Roman Catholic Church. All institutions have good and bad elements, though it is regretable when these bad elements are not dealt with."

As for the rest, the presidential strategy is aimed at bullying and isolating Rivera y Damas to the greatest extent possible in favor of the conservative chairman of the Bishops' Conference, Bishop Tovar Astorga. The latter is not bothered by the impoverishment of the population or by the violations of human rights, but does stand firm against leftist subversion. This bishop certainly did attend Cristiani's inauguration and even gave the benediction. While in the past Bishop Rivera y Damas has been the traditional mediator between the Salvadoran government and the FMLN in peace talks, his presence at the latest dialogue last month in Mexico City was no longer appreciated by ARENA. Instead, the government wanted Bishop Tovar Astorga to be a witness. Eventually a compromise was reached permitting the archbishop's right-hand man, Monsignor Rosa Chavez, to attend the talks in addition to the conservative chairman of the Bishops' Conference. Archbishop Rivera y Damas also arranges for the bringing in of foreign clergymen and lay workers—to the displeasure of the new ARENA government which wants to entrust that task to the same Bishop Tovar Astorga. The church staved that off but 23 foreign clergyman have had to pack their bags just since Cristiani's coming to power. On 11 September of this year the military in San Salvador even arrested 12 doctors and nurses—some of them foreign—at the archdiocese's clinic for allegedly having treated wounded guerrillas. While formerly all of Archbishop Rivera y Damas' Sunday sermons were shown on state television, now those of Bishop Tovar Astorga are repeatedly broadcast. It can also happen that government functionaries and high military officials go directly to Bishop Tovar Astorga to complain about criticism by the bishop or about "slander" by his human rights office.

The Cristiani government is justifying these maneuvers with the comment that it not only wants to maintain relations with the church hierarchy, but with "the whole church." A church spokesman replies: "Whether the government likes it or not, Monsignor Rivera y Damas is the only one who really carries weight in Salvadoran society—by tradition and by the expressed support of John Paul II." Whether President Cristiani was able to bring about a change in that regard during an audience in Rome with the Pope last week, remains as yet a mystery.

Commentary Views Murder of Jesuit Priests

PA2011231589 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1325 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] Here is a very important point that U.S. Ambassador William Walker should take into consideration. Ambassador Walker seems to be a very bad investigator, as he is still in the dark regarding the cowardly murder of the Jesuit priests. After the funeral of the Jesuit priests, the U.S. ambassador still expressed doubts regarding the authors of this crime.

Well, we have received a report stating that the murderers of the Jesuits fired more than 500 shots and stayed in the residence of the slain priests for 1 hour. In other words, 40 men in the uniform of the Salvadoran Army were a few blocks from the General Staff participating in shooting that lasted several minutes, and remained in there for 1 hour, in an area under the Army's control, in an area under the control of the General Staff.

We have a question for the U.S. ambassador. How could 40 men in Salvadoran Armed Forces uniforms, and with police and army patrols only a few meters away from the Jesuits' residence, remain in that place for 1 hour if they were not members of the Armed Forces?

Ambassador William Walker, if you still have any shame, tell the world and answer this question: If the Armed Forces General Staff did not kill the Jesuit priests, how could the murderers—as this international dispatch says—remain in the residence for 1 hour after the heavy shooting, after killing the priests with machine guns on tripods, as the cable says?

We will read this dispatch that is being read all over the world. Maybe William Walker does not even read international dispatches, because he cynically said after the priests' funeral that he had no evidence or indication that the crime was committed by the Armed Forces. Well, Ambassador William Walker, we will read this dispatch to you:

The [word indistinct] in uniform who killed six Jesuit priests and two companions in San Salvador on Thursday fired more than 500 shots and remained at the scene of the crime for almost 1 hour. We repeat: They were in the priests' residence for almost 1 hour, according to private investigations conducted by various institutions.

A few hours before the funeral, the scene of the crime reveals some of the circumstances concerning the machinegunning of the priests.

A friend of the Jesuit priests, the first to arrive on the scene, said that he counted some 500 or 600 bullet holes. He said that these shots were fired from some distance, with a machine gun set up on a tripod. The priests were also later shot in a garden nearby. According to information that the Society of Jesus received following their own reconstruction of the crime, which they have released to the authorities investigating the case, the killers, approximately 30 men in uniform, arrived shortly before 0230. They machinegunned the house before entering, dragged the priests out, put them in front of a wall that is still stained with blood, and shot them. The priests were also shot in the head with a long-range weapon; these shots were fired from some distance. A lawyer, helping in the investigation of this case and who has asked to remain unidentified, said that this was determined because there were no gunpowder marks on the victims.

At the time the crime was carried out, a curfew was being observed throughout the city. [Words indistinct] and the house where the priests lived was surrounded by soldiers. Together with this information, gathered by several institutions and prominent persons to prove that the murder was carried out by soldiers, we must stress that the house was also searched by the soldiers 2 days before the crime was committed. A Jesuit priest who was describing the scene said that only the area previously searched by the soldiers was destroyed. He said that the library was burned and the rooms had been ransacked. According to the priest, $5,000 that Father Ignacio Ellacuria had received in Barcelona—part of an award given the university—were taken from one of the rooms.

The use of long-range weapons would also explain why the brains of the dead were scattered about. This was seen by the first persons who arrived on the scene. Others said that the bodies were destroyed because AK-47 and M-16 assault rifles were used in the attack. The bodies were so utterly destroyed that embalming was not possible. This was reported to ACAN-EFE by Society of Jesus superior Jose Maria Tojeira.

Regarding the two murdered women, the cook Elba Julia Ramos and her 15-year-old daughter Marisela, all indicates that they were machine-gunned in the small room where they slept. There was so much blood that it seeped under the door, and a vertebra and pieces of a skull can still be seen under a sofa in the small room. The preliminary investigations seem to indicate that the victims were not tortured as earlier reports had stated.

Meanwhile, Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani reportedly said yesterday that the Armed Forces High Command has not ruled out the possibility that the killers of the six Jesuit priests could have been soldiers. They have not ruled out the possibility that soldiers could have killed the priests, and they are determined to investigate the incident and punish the responsible parties. This was said by the Salvadoran president in statements to ACAN-EFE and other foreign news agencies. Cristiani, who insisted on the need to avoid unfounded conclusions, added that the military does not think it will be affected by something done by individual members of the institution.

We can clearly see now that there are some contradictions. At this moment there are three positions. There is the position of U.S. Ambassador William Walker—he is like an ostrich with its head buried in the sand. There is proof that rules out all doubt. How can 40 men in uniform be in a militarized area for 60 minutes and not hear shots being fired and bombs exploding? Why did the Army not send in troops to find out what happened only a few blocks from Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce's office? The 40 men were in the area for a whole hour. They had already searched Father Ellacuria's home.

Our question for William Walker: If this was not done by the Armed Forces, then why were they there searching the premises for a whole hour and even stealing $5,000?

They searched drawer by drawer. The disorder they left behind was quite evident in the clips shown on television. They searched the area for an hour to see what they, the murderers, could find to steal. However, Ambassador William Walker says that he does not know if the Army committed the crime.

As we said earlier, there are three positions. This proves that there are contradictions surrounding this case. There is William Walker, acting like an ostrich with his head stuck in the ground. And there is Cristiani's position—the death squad member who wears a tie, who [words indistinct] after the international community [words indistinct], and who said that rash judgment should not be passed and that no one should be in a hurry to accuse the government or anyone else. And there is also the General Staff and Defense Ministry position blaming the FMLN. Why? If it is true that there is a civilian government in El Salvador, then why can the defense minister appear before the television cameras contradicting Cristiani, going against what Cristiani had said? Who gives the orders here, Larios or Cristiani? If Cristiani gives the orders, then the defense minister must obey Cristiani and refrain from making accusations before a serious investigation is held. However, this is not the case.

This further proves what we have been saying. The civilian mask fell on Saturday. The Defense Ministry holds the real power in the country. The Defense Ministry censors the press. The soldiers are the ones censoring the television stations, and not the ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] followers or other civilians. The General Staff, the soldiers, are gagging the press, imposing the state of siege, giving the final orders. It is important to look into this closely because Gen Larios, in an empty speech—we heard him deliver a rhetorical and empty speech—accused the FMLN of killing the priests and said that the Army controls the country. We point out these contradictions [words indistinct].

By saying that they did not do it, that the Armed Forces did not do it, the defense minister admitted that he did it, that he is one of the killers. That is what Gen Larios is saying, that is what he said in his public statement. [Words indistinct] no doubt, and the international community has [words indistinct]. We do not believe in the government's investigations because we have past examples of it. We have Monsignor Romero's case, and we have the case of the Revolutionary Democratic Front leaders, who, a few years ago, were arrested in broad daylight during a police operation. However, not a single soldier has been punished. We do not believe in Cristiani's justice. The international community is putting on the pressure and Cristiani will have to do something. He will probably put up some act. The U.S. Congress also has its eyes on El Salvador. They are debating the issue of aid to El Salvador. There is something else the U.S. Congress must think about. The U.S. Department of State said that it is pleased with the way Cristiani acted in the face of the FMLN offensive. This means that the U.S. Department of State has approved the dropping of white phosphorus over Zacamil and the destruction of 500 homes. This means that the U.S. Department of State has approved the killing of the Jesuit priests, and also the massacre of several Salvadoran citizens who were taken from their homes and killed on the same black night when the Jesuit priests were killed.

Leftist Trade Union Leader Dies in Soyapango

PA2011214689 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1913 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] Reliable sources have informed the national network that Guillermo Rojas, the leftist trade union leader, died in Soyapango Municipality where heavy combat between the Salvadoran Army and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] criminal terrorists has taken place. Guillermo Rojas was one of the top leaders of the Trade Union of Salvadoran Social Security Institute Workers, STISS, and founding member of the leftist UNTS [National Union of Salvadoran Workers], a front for the Marxist-Leninist FMLN groups.

The sources added that the circumstances surrounding Guillermo Roja[illegible]' death have yet to be clarified.

Guatemala

Deputy Says 'Active Neutrality' Policy in Peril

PA1811042089 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 16 Nov 89 p 6

[Text] Independent Deputy Jose Garcia Bauer has charged Guatemala is taking interventionist stances regarding the war in El Salvador, "even in military terms," and stressed the country's foreign policy of active neutrality is in jeopardy. Garcia Bauer's remarks came amidst insistent rumors in Congress that the Guatemalan Government sent troops and weapons to El Salvador to support the Alfredo Cristiani government.

I am not the defense minister or a member of the Army, and that is why I should not talk about these things, Garcia Bauer said. I am speaking as a congressman since I am a member of the legislative branch, Garcia Bauer noted. I am surprised to find a congressional resolution supporting the Salvadoran Government, he said. I do not think the Congress should recommend these things to the government. That is why we have multilateral treaties and presidential meetings, he commented, adding: With the approval of that resolution, the active neutrality policy is really in jeopardy. The Congress must not support or endorse actions by the executive that will be subject to criticism.

Party Leader Sees Threat From El Salvador

PA1811222989 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 16 Nov p 6

[Text] If the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) achieves its purposes in El Salvador, Guatemala will be the next country where it will focus its

guerrilla actions, Dr Mario Castejon [National Party leader] said regarding the developments in the neighboring country.

This is easily explained by the following reasons: First, the organization of the united guerrilla movement in our country, the Guatemala National Revolutionary Union (URNG) and, second, the deteriorating socioeconomic crisis resulting from the current disastrous administration, Castejon noted.

If we add to the above the fact that the government has developed a political strategy of "concessions" to divide the Army and hide guerrilla activities in the territory, it is easy to predict that Guatemala, if the FMLN wins the war in El Salvador, will be the next link in the chain, the doctor stated.

The Honduran situation is different, because it has a defense agreement with the United States. In the case of Costa Rica, which is located in the sphere of the the Socialist International, it is also a different situation, Castejon added.

Deputies 'Upset' Over U.S. Visa Restrictions

PA2111015089 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 11 Nov 89 p 4

[Text] The congressional deputies are very upset because of the restrictions in granting visas enforced by the U.S. Consulate in Guatemala.

One of the cases cited was that of Deputy Marco Antonio Dardon Castillo, first vice president of Congress, who had problems getting a visa on 9 November.

The Mayor of Chinautla was denied a visa, because the consulate felt that "he does not meet the requirements" to enter the United States.

According to what was said in the Congress, this is the first time that these obstacles have been encountered. It seems that the restrictions affect not only members of congress, but also government officials and municipal mayors.

The restrictions started approximately a month ago when Deputies Edmond Mulet, Aida de Rodriguez, and others asked for renewals of their visas. The consulate denied the request, but the visas were later granted thanks to the U.S. Embassy's help.

Deputy Edmond Mulet said that those requesting visas must now inform the consulate where in the United States they will be travelling, what they will be doing there, with whom, for how many days, and in what hotel they will be staying.

After these obstacles were overcome, Deputy Mulet said that the problem rested in a lack of knowledge by the new U.S. consulate officials, and that the incident was over. However, the restrictions are still in place.

On 9 November, Deputy Marco Antonio Dardon Castillo, first vice president of Congress, asked for a visa to travel to the United States. After a request was made by the president of the Congress, the consulate finally granted him a visa at 1600. After overcoming the restrictions, Deputy Dardon Castillo traveled to the United States on 10 November.

On the other hand, Christian Democrat Deputy Carlos Escobedo said that Chinautla Mayor Arnoldo Medrano did not get a visa to travel to the United States.

Escobedo said that Chinautla Mayor Arnoldo Medrano requested a visa and the consulate gave him an appointment, but that after Medrano had stood in line, one of the consuls told him that "he did not meet the requirements to enter the United States."

Medrano said that he did not understand why he was denied a visa, because he presented an official passport, filled out the forms, and informed the consulate that he was going to participate in an activity organized by the Association of Municipal Mayors of Guatemala Department.

Deputy Carlos Escobedo said that a meeting with Mrs. Patterson, the U.S. consul general in Guatemala, will be requested so that she can explain the reason behind the restrictions.

Escobedo felt that the situation could affect relations between the two countries, if, for example, Guatemala decided to reciprocate and give the same treatment to U.S. citizens who wish to enter Guatemala.

Honduras

* 1990 Budget Totals 2.3 Billion Lempiras

90EM0027E Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 15 Sep 89 p 6

[Text] The draft decree pertaining to the General Budget of the Republic for 1990, which was sent to the National Congress yesterday by President Jose Azcona, calls for an increase of 120 million lempiras.

The proposed budget, which the Council of Ministers has approved, increases expenditures to 2.291 billion lempiras, as compared to 2.171 billion in this year's budget.

However, this draft 1990 budget appears to be merely an executive branch formality designed to conform to the constitutional provision which requires that it be sent to the National Congress in the first half of September of each year.

This is the case because the new budget will be determined with the participation of the president elected in the coming 26 November election.

The proposal submitted to the legislative branch calls for substantial increases in the budgets for the Ministries of Education and Health.

President Azcona himself confirmed that the legislative chamber is being asked for a budget of 469 million lempiras for Education, and one of 280 million for Health.

The chief executive said that it is expected that state income will be augmented by 120 million lempiras in the coming year due to the increase in exports and in the sum collected by way of income tax.

"This is a carefully adjusted budget proposal, but it may be that the present National Congress will extend the budget for this year so that with the installation of the new legislative chamber, the 1990 budget can be approved," he said in conclusion.

* 1989 Revenues Up 44 Million Lempiras

90EM0027D Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 7 Oct 89 p 35

[Text] Current income increased by 44.4 million lempiras between January and 30 September of this year, as compared to the same period in 1988, Vice Minister for Income Carlos Rivera Xatruch has confirmed.

This official said that the largest increases were seen in the tax on production, consumption, and sales, in the amount of 28 million lempiras, and in the income tax, in the amount of 10.2 million.

A total of 268 million lempiras was collected in the income tax sector during the period between January and September of 1988, while the figure for this year was 278 million.

This official also said that an effort had been made to improve income from the tax on imports, which saw an increase in the amount of 21 million. While the amount collected for this category was 253.9 million lempiras for the period in question last year, the total this year was 274.9 million.

However, a decline was seen where exports are concerned, due in particular to the decline seen in taxes on coffee and its price on the international market.

Carlos Rivera Xatruch said that in the export category, "We had a decline of 2.2 million lempiras in the tax on coffee, exports of which have been dropping off since last year, but there was some compensation resulting from the increase in banana exports."

In the "Other Income" category, wherein the main component is the oil differential, an increase of about 1.5 million lempiras was seen in the first 9 months of this year (51 million in 1988, as compared to 52.5 million in 1989), according to the statement made by the vice minister for income.

* 1990 'Difficult' Year for Coffee Growers

90EM0027B Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 12 Oct 89 p 3

[Text] Vice Minister of Economy Roberto Alvarado said yesterday that 1990 will be a "difficult" year for the economy in general, including the coffee sector, because there will be no agreement on quotas within the OIC [International Coffee Organization], and prices in this sector are declining.

Alvarado Downing made this statement after his return from London, where he participated in the work of the Honduran Commission of the OIC and was elected first vice president of that organization.

There are no plans for reestablishing the quota system for this harvest year, and it is probable that the free market scheme will prevail throughout the whole period, he said. However, he described the fact that prices will continue "extremely low" on an average as very serious.

However, he said, the allocation of 50 percent of the transferable Foreign Exchange Export Option Certificates (Cetras) to the coffee-growing sector and exemption from export taxes for the sector will make it possible to pay producers a price "above the cost of production."

Prior to the holding of the OIC meeting, the price per sack of coffee was $80. During the meeting it dropped to $73, and as of yesterday, the quotation was $67, while last year, the price was in excess of $120.

"We must prepare for an extremely difficult year," Alvarado said, because all sectors will have to contribute in order "to survive this imminent crisis in coffee production."

It is possible that as the market situation develops, an international consensus will be achieved on the reestablishment of quotas. It is expected that negotiations will begin in the early months of 1990 on the conditions for reactivating the quota system.

But currently, there is no basis for returning to this system, he noted, because of the "inflexible" position adopted by some countries.

These countries include Brazil, which has demanded a market share of at least 30 percent. However, at the most recent meeting in London, it increased this demand to 33 percent.

But it has been established in practice that Brazil's exports come to 27 percent, showing that this country has adopted a "very inflexible" position, Alvarado said.

The vice minister indicated that although it is necessary to diversify production, coffee growing should not be abandoned. Instead, quality should be improved, because this crisis is a temporary situation. This is one of the "lean years."

* World Coffee Price Drops Below Cost

90EM0027A Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 18 Oct 89 p 40

[Text] The current domestic and international prices of coffee are so low that they do not even come close to the cost of producing a 120-pound sack.

As of yesterday, the price on the international market was $62, or 124 lempiras, per sack, almost 10 lempiras below the real production cost.

"The situation is extremely worrisome. It must be dealt with with full responsibility and seriousness, within a context of unity among all of the sectors involved in this activity," Wilfredo Castellanos, president of the Honduran Association of Coffee Producers (Ahprocafe), said yesterday.

The most serious economic impact is on the state, because since last July, when the decline in coffee prices on the international level began, and marketing became a part of the free market system, not a single cent has been received from export taxes, and foreign exchange income has been substantially reduced.

The estimates made by technicians in the sector indicated, as of yesterday, that the state had suffered a total loss of 35 million lempiras, including several millions of dollars.

Castellanos said that the small coffee producers are those most seriously affected, because they cannot reduce their costs, nor can they afford to sell at prices at which they will suffer a loss.

However, through the export mechanism the producers now have, suitable means will be sought to enable coffee growers to obtain a just price for their product, so as to cover their production costs and make a slight profit, the president of the Ahprocafe said in conclusion.

* Grain Production 50 Percent of National Needs

90EM0027C Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 18 Oct 89 p 40

[Text] The farmers' professional association addressed a demand to the political parties yesterday for a greater role in the drafting of farm plans and the reorientation of education toward environmental protection and the training of professional farmers with a business mentality.

Hernan Avila, president of the Honduran Association of Farm Professionals, accompanied by Ministry of Natural Resources technicians, held a press conference yesterday. During the press conference, he stressed that there is a willingness to provide free technical aid to the producers located near the projects which the state is helping them to carry out directly, with a view to increasing domestic farm production.

Honduras needs 20 million sacks of corn for human and industrial consumption, but at present it does not produce even 50 percent of this total. To increase production and reduce costs, the farmers must have the resources essential for producing.

Currently, the state is serving "20 percent of all the producers, and we are offering our help so that the state can provide us with the conditions for producing directly, while at the same time offering free technical aid to all of the producers located near the agronomers who are engaged in production," Avila reiterated.

The agronomers say that they are aware that the hope of national economic recovery depends on increasing farm production, but the governments in office have never devoted the necessary attention and concern to this problem.

"We professional farmers demand redirection of the national education process, so that the focus will be on the Honduran individual on all levels. This effort should involve an environmentalist approach and a focus on savings, to produce professional workers with national dignity," Avila said.

He also maintained that a business mentality should be incorporated in the training of professionals in all disciplines, so as "to transform us into self-managing professionals, because we cannot continue to contemplate technical dependence on the powerful countries. We need to formulate a model of development for ourselves based on the human individual. We need to ensure that agronomers have the resources to devote to production, and that farm development policies are formulated, implemented, and evaluated in Honduras."

The conference was attended by a large number of agronomers working with the Ministry of Natural Resources, which has recruited hundreds of these professionals. Most of the time, they remain in their offices in the cities and towns, and they fail to provide the organized peasants and the independent producers with technical aid so that they can improve their crops and raise the levels of farm production. They admitted this, with their statement that support is provided to only 20 percent of domestic producers.

Nicaragua

Ortega Comments on Talks With Contras

PA2011200489 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1545 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Excerpt] When I spoke on 26 October [at the hemispheric summit] in Costa Rica about the cease-fire and later on 1 November when I proposed the meeting at the United Nations, I did this to accelerate the peace process in Nicaragua so that we would not be living in permanent agony from one cease-fire or truce to the next while enduring a continuing underlying war.

The Central American presidents have an agreement that we signed on 7 August 1987. After that the Central American presidents took more specific actions and reached other agreements. The last one was the one signed on 7 August of this year in Honduras. If we have taken these important actions to have an agreement wherein we have established a time frame for the contras to demobilize, which is 5 December, the logical thing was to exert pressure for the agreement to be fulfilled, because time was running out, and steps were not being made to secure the agreement. That discussion process—the negotiation process—is under way.

The talks will continue today in Washington with the participation of the OAS, the United Nations, Cardinal Obando, Nicaragua, Honduras, and the contras. The contras have tried to withdraw from the talks since Wednesday, but CIAV [International Commission of Support and Verification] undertook efforts with some representatives of the U.S. Government that allowed the contras to sit down at the table to talk once again.

I have the impression that the U.S. Government wants to find a way out of this problem but that it is losing control of the contras. There are always extremist sectors in the United States that support the activities of the contras, that encourage the contras, that abet the activities of the contras. The next few days will be decisive for reaching an agreement. We hope that an agreement will be reached. If an agreement is not reached, we will take whatever measures are necessary to put an end once and for all to the contra activities and to ensure fulfillment of the agreements signed by the Central American countries so that we will have total peace in Nicaragua.

Ortega Speaks on El Salvador, Upcoming Elections

PA2011235689 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Nov 89

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega during a "Face the People" program in the town of Acoyapa, Chontales Department, on 19 Nov; recorded—broadcast in progress]

[Text] ...the Salvadoran people have continued to struggle with great heroism, the Salvadoran people have continued to struggle with great heroism [repeats himself]. Yesterday afternoon, when the Salvadoran Army bombed San Salvador, San Miguel....[changes thought] San Miguel is a city with a population of approximately 150,000 and the Salvadoran revolutionaries are also fighting there. The Armed Forces have been using the Air Force's combat airplanes and helicopters to bomb the people. Well, when they were bombing the people of San Miguel on 18 November, the Salvadoran revolutionaries downed one of the criminal and murderous Armed Forces' airplanes. [applause] The most cynical thing about the Yankee government is that we have not seen the Yankee government and the U.S. President condemn the bombings which are being perpetrated by the Salvadoran Armed Forces against the Salvadoran people. They have yet to condemn this.

When a conflict broke out in China in Beijing, the PRC's capital, the Yankees created a commotion. When one of the contras is but given a dirty look by a Sandinist or a Nicaraguan patriot [words indistinct] because the contras of the UNO [National Opposition Union] or the armed contras cannot be given a dirty look. They do not want us to give them even a dirty look. They do not even want that.

Well, now that those crimes are being committed in El Salvador, and now that six Jesuit priests have been assassinated, we do not see the U.S. Government condemning these actions. We hope that the U.S. Congress will have the strength to condemn, not with words but with actions, the Salvadoran Armed Forces' genocidal policy, which has provoked the brutal death of six priests.

There is a lot of propaganda here claiming that the revolution does not like religion. Are you Christians? [crowd shouts: "Yes!"] Most of the people are Christians. Some may be Christians, others may be evangelists, but most are Christians. Are you Christians? [crowd shouts: "Yes!"] Most of you are one type of Christian or another. Are you Christians? [crowd shouts: "Yes!"] There is religious freedom here; you are free to worship [changes thought] on 18 November I talked with priests and nuns, and I saw the contrast.

Franciscan Priest Miguel Gofia, who founded the Saint Francis Institute in Juigalpa and has worked here 26 years, was given the Ramiro Goviena Order on 18 November in Santo Tomas in recognition for his work. We stated the government's willingness to continue supporting his education work because he has another very good project. Meanwhile, a Salvadoran official on 18 November publicized a letter after the six priests were assassinated. He asked the pope to take the bishops and priests out of El Salvador because they are subversives.

In other words, they assassinate priests over there, and they want to expell priests from the country while we do the opposite here. It is true that some problems arose in some places, but they have been overcome. I have talked at length about the issue with Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, and there is a willingness to overcome the problems that arose in the past. Also, there is no contradiction between religion and revolution here, because religion and Christianity advocate justice and peace, not war. [applause] The people of Acoyapa....[changes thought] do you advocate peace? [Shouts of "Yes!" and "No!" are heard in the background] Do you advocate peace? [Shouts of "Yes!" and catcalls are heard in the background] Do you advocate peace? [Shouts of "Yes!" are heard in the background] Do you advocate war? [crowd shouts: "No!"]

No one wants war; no one wants war. Well, it is one thing not to want war and another thing to be low-spirited, and the people of Chontales are not low-spirited. The Nicaraguans are not famous for their low spirits. The Yankees tried to catch us and beat us up, and they wanted us to let

them get away with it, but we have not let them get away with it. Reagan had to leave after 8 years of aggression. Reagan had to leave, the revolution stayed on, and Bush has to change his policy.

I wanted to firmly state here that the people beat up the UNO activist who tore down the FSLN propaganda, because we will not allow that. This cannot be allowed. The FSLN must be respected, the Nicaraguan people must be respected, and the people of Acoyapa must be respected. If anyone wants to show disrespect toward the people, then they will feel the full weight of the law. They will feel the weight of the people. [applause]

I want to see the UNO cocks of the walk try to do something like this in Acoyapa! Do you remember if they were cocks of the walk in Somozist times? [crowd laughs] Do you remember if they were cocks of the walk? They were chickens then! [crowd laughs and shouts] They would never dare say any dirty words to a guardsman. The guardsman would immediately beat him with the butt of his gun. [words indistinct] Some of them were Somozists.

This does not mean that all those who were Somozists committed sin because [words indistinct] not a Somozist. There were people who were Somozists out of need, not because in their hearts they felt anything for Somoza. They were committing a mild sin, not a mortal sin. They had the opportunity to join the revolution and to participate in the revolution. We have many people working for us who once served for Somoza, but they are the poor people. We have people who once served for the National Guard, but they are poor people, who did not commit horrible crimes. They have been given the opportunity to join the revolution.

There are others who committed mortal sins and continue to commit mortal sins. Not even God forgives mortal sins when they are constantly being committed. The people are taking note of this. [applause] The revolution has taken note of this. He who wants to throw away the Sandinist propaganda, well, there is the belt. He will be whipped with the belt, but this type of attitude cannot be permitted. He who tries to raise his hand in this regard will be [word indistinct] the hand, but we cannot allow anyone to show a lack of respect for the revolution and for the symbol of the Sandinists. The red and black flag is the symbol of Sandino. It is the symbol of Nicaragua's dignity.

No one should be fooled. These elections are where Yankee policy faces Nicaraguan policy. It is the revolution facing the imperialists. They could not defeat us with bullets and with the contras. The contras have no possibility of occupying a town. They tried it several times and they failed, even when they had the full support of the Yankees. However, they are capable of killing people and peasants. They are capable of frightening the population.

They were defeated by the people. Look how many defeats they have suffered. They were defeated for the first time on 19 July 1979. Their second defeat came in the 1984 elections. They suffered their third defeat during all the years in which the contras carried out their attacks with Reagan's support. On 25 February 1990, they will suffer their fourth defeat. [applause]

They will suffer their fourth defeat, because who can be fooled? What is the UNO? The UNO is a mixture of parties. What kinds of parties make up the UNO? It includes those who say they were liberals, others who say they were Somozists, others who say they were conservatives, and others who say they were communists. It is a strange mixture. Communists, conservatives, and liberals. Can you imagine this?

I have been explaining this. Do you like tamales? Do people in Acoyapa like tamales? No? How are tamales done here in Acoyapa? Listen to this: Nicaraguans are the ones who really know how to make tamales. Who knows how to make tamales? Nicaraguans. Could you imagine George Bush cooking a tamale? Do you think Bush can do a great tamale? [crowd shouts: "No!"] That is just what the UNO is. The UNO is a tamale cooked by Bush. Therefore, it is a poorly-made and poorly-wrapped tamale. That is the UNO. [applause]

Who will take a bite out of this tamale? Who will eat this tamale? The one who eats it will have indigestion and will throw up—both up and down. [crowd laughs]

The Nicaraguan people are no fools, and they will not eat this tamale. The Nicaraguan people know how a tamale is made.

You like baseball too, right? If you were batting, would you like to hit a foul ball to the right? [crowd shouts: "No!"] Would you like to hit a foul ball to the left? [crowd shouts: "No!"] You would like to hit it straight down the middle for a home run. This is what the people of Acoyapa will do on 25 February 1990. They will mark off box number five where the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] is. The people of Chontales will mark off box number five on the 25th, the people of Nicaragua will mark off box number five on the 25th, and once more they will hit a home run! Long live the people of Acoyapa! Long live the people of Chontales! We win and everything will be better! We win and from then on everything will be better! We win and from then on everything will be better!

Ex-Sandinist Reveals Secret Guerrilla Base

PA2111021389 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 18 Nov 89 pp 1, 3

[Text] Jesus Camacho Zapata, former first lieutenant of the Sandinist Air Force, publicly stated in Guatemala that the Sandinist Army has direct links with the Salvadoran guerrillas and gives them logistical support and military advice.

Camacho Zapata requested his discharge from the Sandinist Army because "he was tired of so much corruption

in it," he confessed. Camacho worked directly in a secret Sandinist Army plan known as the "Butterfly Plan."

Camacho said: "Many trips were made in speedboats to and from El Salvador, carrying weapons, ammunition, and other equipment, even men. We evacuated the wounded on our return trips. The exact dates, hours, and number of trips were registered in a secret book marked 'Butterfly Plan' which was zealously kept by Lieutenant Pedro Torres, chief of the naval base in Corinto, who died during Holy Week in 1987."

According to Camacho, the "Butterfly Plan" involved direct support for the Salvadoran guerrillas and the installation of the clandestine station near Cosiguina volcano in Chinandega, Nicaragua.

In the same statement, Camacho stressed that the guerrilla general staff is in Managua, and not in El Salvador as the rebels claim.

The former EPS [Sandinist People's Army] lieutenant added: "The headquarters of the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] is located in Managua, in a restricted area at kilometer marker 14 on the southern highway. It is on a dirt road that is full of signs saying 'no trespassing.' This road leads to a modern fenced-in building surrounded by thick vegetation and protected, around-the-clock, by young guerrillas who are armed with M-16 rifles and aided by beautiful guard dogs."

He added: "Leonel Gonzalez' wife and children live in that building. However, it also serves as a complete command post with sophisticated communications, and contains a large map with all the details of the Salvadoran territory on it which is used by Cuban advisers and guerrilla commanders to plan guerrilla campaigns. This shows that Nidia Diaz and Roberto Roca—two of the leaders I saw there—in addition to Gonzalez, are directing the war from there.

Camacho said that "Companero Antonio," which is Gonzalez' nom de guerre, was one of the members of the commission participating in the talks with the Duarte government following the Esquipulas Agreements at the time the Ortega government was holding talks with the Nicaraguan resistance.

He disclosed that a Salvadoran guerrilla observation post is located in Cosiguina volcano.

"There they have sophisticated Soviet-made radar systems: Project 37, Project 19, Project 18, and digital PRV-16 altimeters. Since June of 1988 that base has been controlling the movement of Salvadoran and Honduran planes in the vast air space covered by the P-37, a distance of 260 km and an altitude of 30,000 feet," he explained.

Camacho offered these statements to journalists and Guatemalan congressmen. He is requesting political asylum because he feels he cannot return to Nicaragua as long as the Sandinist National Liberation Front is in power.

Defense Ministry Reports Contra Attacks

PA2111012589 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 16 Nov 89 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Contras Continue Sowing Terror"]

[Text] EPS [Sandinist People's Army] troops fought with a group of mercenaries in the area called La Pavona, located northeast of Abisinia, Jinotega Department, killing two mercenaries and seizing one AK-47 rifle, the Nicaraguan Defense Ministry reported yesterday. That same day there was another clash in the Musuwake area, located northeast of Muelle de los Bueyes in the Southern Atlantic Autonomous Region. One EPS soldier was killed and another was wounded.

The Defense Ministry also reported fighting on El Chile mountain northeast of Pantasma, Jinotega Department. As a result, two EPS soldiers were wounded. Fighting was also reported on that same day in the area known as Buena Vista, located northeast of Pantasma. Two EPS comrades were wounded. In addition, the Defense Ministry reported several terrorist actions against civilians, including an attack on 12 November when mercenary groups murdered peasant Luis Suarez of the Mokoron cooperative in the area called Medio Mundo Mountains, located southeast of Talolinga, Southern Atlantic Autonomous Region. The contras also kidnapped three civilians in the Medio Mundo Mountains. The kidnapped civilians were identified as Felipe Oporta, Beatriz Oporta, and Noel Oporta.

'Hundreds' of Reservists To Aid Pancasan Mission

PA2111030189 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] Major Donald Mendoza, chief of staff of Managua's special defense region, announced on 15 November that hundreds of reservists from Managua's eastern neighborhoods will be mobilized on 3 December to reinforce the Pancasan mission during the next 6 months.

The ranking military officer gave assurances that Battalion 3238, composed primarily of reservists from Districts 4, 5, and 6 in Managua, is fully prepared to be sent at any time to Region 5.

Maj Mendoza said that the Sandinist People's Army commands will postpone the mobilization of citizens involved in Supreme Electoral Council activities or activists in the different political parties participating in the election process.

To conclude, Mendoza pointed out that so far, approximately 10,000 citizens have registered this year in the reserve battalions, excluding youths in the Patriotic Military Service.

* Controversy Surrounds Sugar Shortages

* Price Increase Lamented

90EM0033A Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 19 Sep 89 pp 1, 12

[Article by Maria Elena Palacios]

[Text] The alleged "shortage" of sugar continues in markets throughout the country without the reasons for it being clarified. Where the sugar has gone remains unknown. Along with this situation, Cansa [National Sugar Company], the company which markets sugar, has announced a new increase in its price which went into effect on 18 September.

The price of a quintal of refined sugar, which was previously 561,000 cordobas, went up to 810,000 cordobas; sulfite of sugar, which used to cost 546,000 cordobas per quintal, now costs 788,000 cordobas a quintal; and raw sugar went up from 399,500 cordobas a quintal to 575,500 cordobas a quintal.

Nevertheless, there continues to be a shortage of sugar in the markets, although Manuel Coronel Kautz, the president of Conazucar [Nicaraguan Sugar Corporation], told LA PRENSA on 19 September that there is no such problem. He said: "On the contrary, we have delivered more sugar in these last 3 months than we have delivered for some time."

He added that prior to April the delivery quota was 100-110,000 quintals monthly for domestic consumption. From May to August this quota was increased by 50 percent to an average of 150,000 quintals of sugar monthly.

In the past 2 months the people have been faced with the sharp crisis of a sugar shortage. When he was asked about this situation, Manuel Coronel Kautz indicated that he was not fully informed about this problem. He said that he did not know the reason for the shortage, since he stated that there is more sugar on the market than there was previously.

He stated: "The sale of sugar to the public is not restricted. We cannot explain the reason for the shortage. In particular, we are producers, and we turn the sugar over to Cansa and Enabas [National Enterprise for Staple Foods], the distributing companies. As far as this is concerned, we do not know how sugar is behaving in the market. We have nothing to do with that."

Manuel Coronel Kautz added that for the next 2 months, prior to the beginning of the sugar harvest (1 November), "We have enough sugar to supply the people with the same quotas for delivery to the distributing companies."

The official of Conazucar considered that with regard to this whole problem, "I think that it is the result of speculators. These people know how the market and production are going. Therefore, they know that there are 2 months left before the sugar harvest begins. For that reason they think that we have only a small amount of sugar in reserve. So they take advantage of the opportunity to speculate."

When he was asked about the causes of the new increase in the price of sugar, Coronel Kautz said that this is a measure which reflects reality. That is, a larger demand which has been evident in the last few days caused the increase in the price. He said: "This is the way to break the speculators. Therefore, there has to be a contraction in demand."

He added that another of the causes for the increase in price is that to the extent that the currency has been devalued, finally the price of sugar has to be increased to reflect this.

On the other hand, this morning, in the Managua markets, sugar was noticeable for its absence. The merchants said: "There is no sugar," and at the same time they said that they could not buy it because it was very expensive. Meanwhile, in another area of the same market we met a merchant who was selling sugar for 18,000 cordobas a pound.

The people are still asking themselves: what is happening to the sugar? Where is it going? What is it being used for? If there is enough sugar to supply the country, why do the sugar distributing companies say that there is no sugar?

* Price Structure Questioned

90EM0033B Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 20 Sep 89 pp 1, 12

[Article by Maria Elena Palacios]

[Text] Yes, there is enough sugar in the markets of Managua, but at prices which are too high for workers' family budgets. The question is, who held on to hundreds of quintals of sugar for more than 2 months in the hope of a new price increase? Why did Cansa [National 435Sugar Company] restrict the sale of sugar to its customers over the past few months?

Consumers were surprised on 20 September to see the large quantity of sugar for sale in the markets. They also said that they did not agree with the excessive price charged for sugar, which has gone up by nearly 100 percent over the level set by Cansa on 19 September.

Three different prices for the three types of sugar were being charged on 20 September. On the one hand, Cansa announced its new price for refined sugar at 810,000 cordobas a quintal, sulfite of sugar remained at 788,000 a quintal, while raw sugar rose to 575,500 cordobas a quintal.

On the other hand, at the Mercado Oriental a quintal of refined sugar was quoted at 1.4 million cordobas a quintal, sulfite of sugar at 1.2 million cordobas a quintal, and raw or black sugar at 950,000 cordobas a quintal. Meanwhile, at the Mercado Huembes the prices were astronomical, since refined sugar cost 1.7 million cordobas a quintal, sulfite of sugar cost 1.4 million cordobas a quintal, and raw sugar cost 1.1 million cordobas a quintal.

Some 24 hours after having announced an increase of 45 percent in the price of sugar only Minister of Agriculture Jaime Wheelock has pointed out that there are "production problems." Nevertheless, not even what he stated answers satisfactorily the question which the people are asking themselves: why the price increase?

Wheelock simply said that the production of sugar declined from the forecast of 5 billion quintals to 3.2 billion produced. However, he stated, as did Manuel Coronel Kautz of Conazucar [Nicaraguan Sugar Corporation] and officials of Cansa, that there was no shortage. He said: "Therefore, there is no need for hoarding, and the present speculation is the work of unscrupulous merchants who are taking advantage of the people."

For his part Gerardo Bravo, an official of Enabas, the National Enterprise for Staple Foods, stated that on the morning of 20 September officials of the Ministry of Economy, Industry, and Commerce agreed to increase by 14,000 quintals the weekly quota of sugar to "supply the consumers adequately." Furthermore, he said, deliveries to supermarkets will be normalized. Bravo's statements reaffirm what was stated by the other officials regarding the shortage.

The prices of sugar have varied considerably since September 1987, when most production was still in the hands of private enterprise.

Sugar Prices 1987-1989

Date	Dollar Exchange Rate	Cordobas per Pound	Dollars per Pound
Sep 87	6,575 to $1	2,000	0.30
Dec 87	6,575 to $1	12,000	1.80
Feb 88 (Currency Change)	10.25 to $1	20	1.95
May 88	12.35 to $1	25	2.02
Jul 88 (Conference of San Antonio)	365 to $1	800	0.21
Aug 88	380 to $1	90	0.24
Sep 88	460 to $1	180	0.39
Oct 88	1,300 to $1	250	0.19
Nov 88	2,500 to $1	500	0.20
Dec 88	4,500 to $1	800	0.18
Jan 89	4,250 to $1	2,000	0.47
Feb 89	4,250 to $1	1,400	0.33
Mar 89	4,250 to $1	1,800	0.42
Apr 89	6,900 to $1	2,000	0.22
May 89	9,085 to $1	2,000	0.22
Jun 89	25,000 to $1	4,500	0.18
Jul 89	25,000 to $1	5,000	0.20
Aug 89	25,000 to $1	8,500	0.34
Sep 89	25,000 to $1	10,000	0.40

* Sugar Imports Expected

90EM0033C Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 28 Sep 89 p 4

[Text] Beginning on 2 October, sugar will be distributed to different consumer groups, with 130,000 quintals earmarked for this purpose throughout the month of October.

The Committee on Analysis and Review of the Sugar Supply, a recently established body, approved this order at its first meeting on 27 September with the following persons attending: Francisco Sanchez, delegate of the Ministry of Domestic Commerce; Gerardo Bravo, from the National Enterprise for Staple Foods (Enabas); and Jose Dolores Berrios, from the People's Industrial Corporation (Coip).

Also present were Ivan Mendieta and Bayardo Duarte from the National Sugar Company (Cansa), the company in charge of sugar sales which comes under the Nicaraguan Sugar Corporation (Conazucar).

The committee also reviewed the agreements made at the meeting on 22 September at which the companies involved in the production, distribution, and consumption of sugar decided to place larger amounts of sugar on sale in the various sectors of the country to foil hoarders.

As a result of this measure, which has already been implemented in the retail markets of Managua, the price of sugar has declined, since it is now being sold for 10,000 cordobas per pound. During periods of shortage it was sold for up to 15,000 cordobas per pound. Nevertheless, merchants in the markets will have to lower prices even further, despite the fact that committee members agreed to them at the committee working session.

Ivan Mendieta from Cansa said that his organization has approved an order to continue delivering sugar to retail distribution centers (markets) so that sugar prices will be maintained.

As for Enabas, which is the most reliable means of distribution, 9,835 quintals of sugar are available for the coffee harvest and 9,000 quintals for the AFA [Rice, Beans, and Sugar] package, as well as 55,582 quintals for sale at its agencies throughout the country, of which 14,000 quintals of sugar are earmarked for retail distributors in Managua.

Cansa will continue supplying 55,582 quintals of sugar to small, medium-sized, and large industries, the EPS [Sandinista People's Army], and some commisariats and lunch rooms which do not come under the Enabas.

Sugar Imports

On the other hand Ivan Mendieta, executive director of Cansa, confirmed to BARRICADA that arrangements are being made for the import of 150,000 quintals of sugar, which will constitute a reserve until the time when the Nicaraguan sugar mills begin the sugar harvest.

He said that for the rest, sugar produced in Nicaragua will meet requirements for October and a part of November. The 150,000 quintals of sugar to be imported will reportedly be earmarked for any emergency. According to present plans, this possibility is very remote, since two of the Nicaraguan sugar mills begin the harvest in the middle of November, and the rest of the mills producing sugar will follow in succession.

In response to indications from Enabas that Cansa has not carried out the agreements already made, Mendieta explained to BARRICADA that transportation problems have come up in Region V in particular, since that section of the country is supplied by the Camilo Ortega Sugar Mill, in Kukra Hill.

It is true that of the 6,433 quintals of sugar which should be delivered during October, Enabas reports that it has only received 3,736 quintals in Region V. Nevertheless, Mendieta said that 5,758 quintals have been supplied and that on 29 September two shipments will arrive with an additional 2,000 quintals of sugar.

In Managua, Enabas is asking for greater quantities of sugar to supply retail outlets. An official of Enabas said: "Cansa must give priority to this matter." He pointed out that at present there are 137 retail outlets. Consideration is being given in September to closing 144 establishments of that kind.

Previously, CANSA provided 10,000 quintals of sugar for retail distributors, a quota which was increased by an additional 4,000 quintals in September.

* Government 'Speculated'

90EM0033D Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 26 Sep 89 p 2

[Text] When sugar began to become scarce in stores and retail markets 2 weeks ago, people were surprised that this would happen in a country producing such an essential food. It was then that Minister of Agricultural and Livestock Development Wheelock denied that there was a shortage, because the Cansa [National Sugar Company] warehouses were full and, therefore, there was no reason why the price should go up. Finally, he resorted to the standard argument of blaming speculators.

However, the economic facts and the laws of the market are stubborn. The truth and the objective fact is that sugar continued to be missing from store windows in the market. LA PRENSA then asked the question, who is lying? Before the shortage developed a pound of sugar had been selling for 12,000 cordobas.

At this point Wheelock continued denying the truth and swore that Cansa had plenty of sugar. However, as he could not deny the enormous pressure of demand, he began to authorize an increase in the sales price of sugar to test the market and thereby find an equilibrium between supply and demand, using the infallible tools of the speculator, who can control real supply.

This is the way things were, at 464,000 cordobas for a quintal of sugar. Sugar began to be offered timidly at 561,000 cordobas per quintal. However, this new price was not enough to satisfy the enormous demand of sugar for normal consumption. The price continued rising until Wheelock had no alternative to authorizing a new increase, this time to 810,000 cordobas per quintal. Thus the government official, playing the role of a business speculator, succeeded in finding a balance between supply and demand.

That is the whole truth. The government, through Wheelock, began to export sugar on a large scale, taking advantage of the increase in sugar prices on the international market, without taking care of the domestic demand for which he had to provide.

Now, at the new price, sugar began to flow into the market. At this point all of the government media had been denouncing the fact without daring to point to the truly guilty party. However, in view of the fact that they had to blame someone, they designated the manager of Cansa, Manuel Coronel Kautz, who was innocent of any involvement in the whole maneuver, as the scapegoat.

Omar Cabezas reached the heights of histrionics by presenting a great show on Sandinist TV, demanding the head of the guilty manager of Cansa, in order to raise a smokescreen for the benefit of Minister Wheelock.

We may draw some conclusions from all of this: first, that Wheelock lied openly. Secondly, that it is better to sell all of the sugar crop on the domestic market above all, even at prices equivalent to the foreign market, instead of exporting it and leaving us without this essential food. Thirdly, the government behaved like one more "speculator," with the advantage that it is immune from any punishment. That is one lesson more on how our economy functions, centrally planned from the desk of a bureaucrat turned into a merchant.

Panama

Partial Dignity Battalion Hit List Revealed

PA2111034889 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0312 GMT 21 Nov 89

[Text] In Panama, General Manuel Antonio Noriega's paramilitary forces, known as dignity battalions, have announced a list of 200 people who would be killed if the United States attempts to implement a plan to oust or kill Panama's strongman.

The list includes opposition leaders Guillermo Endara, Ricardo Arias Calderon, Guillermo Ford, and opposition leaders in exile such as Jose Blandon, Juan Sossa, and Eric Arturo Delvalle. [Screen shows a partial list with the following names: Guillermo Endara, Ricardo Arias Calderon, Guillermo Ford, Ivan Romero, Mario Galindo, Ruben Rosas, Aurelio Alba, Alfredo Ramirez, Alfredo Ehlers, Raul Rosa, Guillermo Cochez, Alfonso Villarreal, Victor Watz, Olimpo Saez, Arnulfo Escalona, Gabriel Lewis Galindo, Jose Blandon, Jose Sosa Arellano Lennox, Ada Lopez de Gordon, Marcos Alarcon, Luis Alberto Arias, Alfredo Oranges, Denis Arce, Ovidio Diaz, Aristides Royo, Camilo Brenes, Ramon Aizpurua, Isaac Rodriguez, Fernando Gaona, Miguel Cardenas, Juan B. Sosa, Eric Arturo Delvalle, Marcel Salamin, Jose Maria Faundes, Roberto Eisenmann, Carlos Rodriguez, Omaira Correa]

Columnist Views List

PA2111010789 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 20 Nov 89 p 6

["Lancer" column by Mustafa: "Message to the Lackeys of Imperialism"]

[Text] First of all, we wish to thank the lackeys of U.S. imperialism who work for the pro-Yankee station Radio Impacto of Costa Rica, for having given us free publicity for our nationalistic posture. We just want to correct their information regarding the name of our mother, Mrs Maria Luisa Flores. However, if they want to credit Mrs Romelia de Pardo with being our mother, we accept this with pleasure, because she is a worthy example of the Panamanian woman, a fighter and a revolutionary who is fighting for the most cherished interests of the fatherland, even if she may have to lose her life in that struggle.

Second, we wish to tell those who sold their dignity for a dollar, those who are inside and outside of our territory, that they should not think that they will escape unscathed if something happens to Commander Noriega or any of the Panamanian leaders who are committed to the struggle for national liberation.

We have the list of the traitors and the buddies of the genocidal George Bush, both abroad and here in our territory.

The traitors will not enjoy that $3 million that the U.S. Government has allocated for the assassination of the leader of Panama's national liberation movement, General Manuel Antonio Noriega. It would have been better to use the $3 million for social programs for the U.S. people, primarily for the young drug addicts who are wandering around the streets of New York, or for the AIDS patients who are dying in droves in the United States.

Another message to the lackeys of U.S. imperialism: We know what cafeterias and restaurants they gather in to hatch their conspiracies. We also know who is providing disinformation to Radio Impacto and who is sending information to that station from Panama.

In addition to all these messages, I wish to remind the lackeys that the special people's commandos have already been formed to take care of the turncoat traitors. The is the first notice (and it is free, to return the favor to Radio Impacto).

U.S. Troops Block Entrance to Health Ministry

PA2011220489 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1718 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] U.S. Southern Command soldiers, stationed along the banks of the Panama Canal, illegally blocked access to the Panamanian Health Ministry's SPT2000 building this morning. The building is located in the reverted areas, and it houses the offices of the National Malaria Eradication Offices and the Education and Technology Center. The action, which included the use of armored personnel carriers, resulted in strong protests by Panamanian health officials, who, carrying the national flag, shouted anti-imperialist and nationalist slogans. Local and foreign reporters arrived on the scene and saw this new intimidation tactic by U.S. soldiers. Dr Guillermo Campos, a high-ranking Health Ministry official, will tell our listeners about this new act of U.S. intimidation:

[Begin Campos recording] Today we have again been victims of U.S. aggression. Today the white areas established in the treaties have been invaded. Access has been blocked, and we have been prevented from carrying out our daily activities.

The activities we carry out here in this division are aimed at providing health services and protecting the people, including U.S. citizens. It is here that we draft the AIDS control programs and the programs to control noncommunicable diseases and sexually transmitted diseases. Furthermore, and despite the unrest created among the workers, at this moment we are being threatened with the tanks coming in to occupy the area where we are working.

We feel that these are unprecedented actions. We have seen similar incidents in the past [as heard], but every time one of these incidents occurs, it gets worse. When humanitarian work is hindered, it is an attack on the health of a people. With their barricades they prevent the entrance of all cars. The Panama Defense Forces and Acting Health Minister Rolando Allen intervened, and the barricades were removed. We can now enter the area, but we do not know—since we have been threatened with the tanks... [changes thought]. We remain firm, and the workers remain firm. We are inside the building and around it, fighting for what we believe is fair. [end recording]

Moments before this report was drafted, we learned that U.S. Southern Command tanks had been parked near the Health Ministry's SPT2000 building. Let us hear what some of the Health Ministry workers said regarding the presence of U.S. troops.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording, in progress] ...maintain ourselves on a state of alert 24 hours a day, because a united people [people finish sentence by shouting: "will never be defeated!"] [end recording]

Columnist Criticizes U.S. Media Sanctions

PA2011230089 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 17 Nov 89 p 36

[Article from "The Griper" column]

[Text] A few days ago, the U.S. Embassy gave a "briefing" or press conference at which it announced penalties against businesses that advertise on or have links with either TV-2 [Televisora Nacional] or Radio Verbo. The penalties, which are considered excessive by the international press accredited in Panama, involve fines of up to $50,000, and prison sentences of 1-10 years for U.S. businesses that advertise on or sell their signals or programs to these communications media.

Although we acknowledge that there is a crisis in the relations between the United States and Panama, we cannot accept this kind of pressure, which shows a lack of political uniformity by a country that boasts of freedom of speech, free access to information, and a tolerance for the communications media.

Media Criticize Reported U.S. Covert Plan

PA2011222789

[Editorial Report] Panamanian media continue to comment on the recent THE LOS ANGELES TIMES report of a U.S. Government covert operation to oust General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Panama City CRITICA in Spanish on 20 November publishes reports and editorials on the reported covert operation. In caption accompanying a front-page photograph of Dignity Battalion members holding up rifles, CRITICA reports that with the slogan, "An Eye for an Eye, a Tooth for a Tooth," the Dignity Brigades and Committees for the Defense of the Fatherland and Dignity, CODEPADI, pledged that if there is an attack on the government's security, "the oligarchs and traitors will have to pay with their lives for the implementation of their macabre plans."

In its editorial entitled "An Eye for an Eye, A Tooth for a Tooth," CRITICA states that according to the plan disclosed by THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, the Central Intelligence Agency has been authorized by the Bush administration to "invest $3 million to remove Gen Noriega through violent methods or tactics which could possibly lead to his death." CRITICA adds that if such a plan is implemented, the Panamanian people will not stand idly by: "If the arm of vengeance is not sufficiently long to reach the White House itself, it will be long enough to impart justice against the criminals in Panama who have cooperated with the United States in its plans to cut off the jugular vein of the Panamanian people." It warns that if Noriega dies, "the people's justice has already established its priorities and the forces are ready to unleash the counterblow when and if necessary." The paper continues: "If the aristocrats of stupidity who are promoting the plan think that they will enjoy impunity, they are mistaken. Their luxurious neighborhoods, now painted angelically white, will also see blood flow because of the blood they want to spill on behalf of the stars and stripes. Don't forget that today's slogan is: An Eye for an Eye, a Tooth for a Tooth."

On pages 1 and 18, CRITICA publishes the text of an 18 November "Proclamation of the Cocle Province Revolutionary Youth" which warns that if there is any attempt on Noriega's life, "We will respond by selectively attacking and executing those who slyly and traitorously now want to end the life of the leader of the national liberation process."

In his "Political Coliseum" column published on CRITICA's page 4, Baltazar Renan Aizpurua states that the Panamanian people "are outraged" by the announcement that the U.S. President has ordered the CIA's covert operation. Aizpurua adds that "U.S. President George Bush's insane attitude indicates that he is not in his right mind." Asking how the U.S. Government and press would react if any other country were to issue an order to overthrow, kidnap or assassinate President Bush, Aizpurua replies that the United States would not remain passive. The columnist concludes by stating: "The guilt of U.S. President George Bush's administration in any action against the life of Noreiga is unquestionable and its responsibility cannot go unpunished in the court of international public opinion. We Panamanians will have more than enough reasons to obtain our national revenge; our targets have already been determined. Assassins and insane Yankees, don't play with fire."

The "Liberation Trails" program broadcast by Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish at 1200 GMT on 20 November also addresses the Panamanians' "patriotic reaction" to the U.S. plan. Hosts Euclides Fuentes Arroyo and Baltazar Renan Aizpurua touch on this topic at the beginning of their 75-minute long program. Aizpurua begins by reading his "Political Coliseum" column criticizing the plan and Fuentes Arroyo follows by commenting that the U.S. plan should not be taken lightly because "the world was witness on 16 November to the assassination of six Jesuit priests by imperialism's lackeys in El Salvador. The crime by the death squads, by the military men linked to Cristiani's right wing government, is a crime committed by U.S. imperialism." Therefore, he comments, the threat against Noriega must be taken very seriously because if the United States had no scruples in assassinating Catholic priests in El Salvador through its lackeys, then "it will not hesitate to assasinate a man who stands in the way of its plans to perpetuate its presence in our country." He adds: "We must take this threat seriously and, in addition, we must respond as patriots by executing the traitors."

Under the headline, "An Eye for An Eye, A Tooth for a Tooth Now," Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish on

20 November publishes on pages 1 and 8 a report which indicates that "beginning on 18 November, a new Dignity Battalion and CODEPADI mobilization operation was undertaken in strict coordination with the Defense Forces to reiterate the decision to continue to resist the imperialist aggression and to verify the readiness status of their members."

Column Sees Noriega Appointment as Reply to Bush

PA2111015489 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 20 Nov 89 p 5

[From Ricardo Lince's "Let The People Judge" Column: "Noriega as Chief of State is the Answer"]

[Text] THE LOS ANGELES TIMES has published Bush's $3 million plan to remove Noriega from his post, resorting to murder. The offer is being spread throughout the underworld to see who will take the "contract." This hair-raising reality unveils the face of state terrorism reigning in the United States and clears up questions about Kennedy's murder, as well as the murders of his brother Robert, Martin Luther King, and leaders of liberation movements. It is under this aegis that we see the murder of nuns, bishops, newsmen, Jesuits, and university rectors.

The appointment of Noriega as chief of state and leader of Panama's liberation movement should be our immediate reply to Bush's plan. This far-reaching event should take place on 28 November, to give that day one more historical connotation in our struggle for liberation. It is up to the corregimineto representatives to undertake this urgent task.

The plan conceived by Bush and reported by his press has flabbergasted the Christian world. It is a warning to world leaders of what might happen to them in the future, in view of the lack of control, corruption, and desperation of a President who is counting on murder to get rid of a Panamanian who told him: Get your hands out of Panama.

Bush seeks to justify Noriega's murder, claiming that it would safeguard the human rights and democracy that he claims are being violated in Panama. However, he places himself openly in a punishable contradiction before man and God because of the respect commanded by those human rights, which constitutes the main condition of democracy, and because democracy begins with the primary right to life.

Oppositionist Foresees Further Coup Attempts

PM2011092589 Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 31 Oct 89 p 7

[Interview with Opposition leader Guillermo Endara by Joaquim Ibarz in San Jose, Costa Rica— date not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Ibarz] When do you foresee the next coup against Noriega?

[Endara] Any day. I will not venture to say when; it depends on circumstances which are beyond our control developing within the Defense Forces. What we hope is that the military will perform a final action to end the terror and disintegration inflicted by General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

[Ibarz] Why are you so confident of an imminent coup?

[Endara] If there have already been six attempts to put an end to Noriega, there will inevitably be a seventh, and if that fails, there will be an eighth. We are in a stage of disintegration which appears to be unstoppable. Gen Noriega's gangster-like behavior has created a trauma within the Defense Forces. He has broken with the chain of command and any kind of morale. The crisis affects everybody; many feel ashamed to be military personnel. It can also be foreseen that any future attempt will be much tougher and bloodier and much more dangerous for those within the Panamanian Army and for those of us outside it. We have entered a new stage of brutality in the country's political and social life.

[Ibarz] How far has the regime's disintegration gone?

[Endara] The disintegration affects all national guardsmen, whatever their rank. The military is anxious. The higher their rank, the greater the fear and the worse their situation. Everybody distrusts each other. The rebellion was so great that situations of the utmost gravity are discovered daily.

[Ibarz] Why will it be bloodier?

[Endara] God grant that it will not be so, but it is the logical conclusion after Gen Noriega's repression of the latest rebels, breaking the rule of not killing the defeated. Hitherto the safest place for Noriega was the Panamanian Defense Forces, but right now the most dangerous place for the dictator is the Defense Forces themselves, and he must be reflecting on this. In the latest uprising there is a very grave difference—the bloodshed. The law of the jungle is now clear: Within the Panamanian Army you either kill or are killed. The number of those killed, missing, or tortured is a trauma for the military. Gen Noriega exercises his leadership with a dynamic of self-destabilization and self-destruction whose first victim is the military.

[Ibarz] Is there still any solution for Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega?

[Endara] I hope that this situation he himself has caused will lead him to seek a solution he has so far totally shunned. Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez' initiative, which I deem positive and opportune because he showed that there are still valid solutions, could help in this connection.

[Ibarz] Do you believe that they will kill Gen Noriega in the next coup?

[Endara] I wish for nobody's death, but I am afraid that he will only leave military headquarters feet first and

wearing wooden pajamas. I will tell you the anecdote about the priest who spoke of Noriega's death from the pulpit, and some friends asked him afterward why he wished for somebody's death. The priest replied: "I do not wish for his death; I wish him everlasting life."

[Ibarz] Who supports Gen Noriega? Who are his supporters?

[Endara] The Panamanian regime has no social base; it keeps going only through the terror it has inflicted inside and outside the Defense Forces. Those who staged the coup were his greatest supporters. The same thing happened with last year's coup. Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega's isolation is not just international; he is even more alone inside the country. The groups which support him are the bloodsuckers and toadies always there near the barracks. They are people without any loyalty; they only support whomever is in command, without ideology. The misnamed Dignity Battalions come partly from the lumpen, who can be bought with a few dimes, and are partly criminals whom Gen Noriega released from prison. The people who support him are said to be pseudoleft-wing, but they have nothing left-wing about them; they are fascists.

Officer Accuses U.S. of Hiding Wounded Soldiers

PA2011214489 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1802 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] Panama, 20 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—A Panamanian officer accused the U.S. Southern Command today of "hiding" Salvadoran soldiers wounded during last week's guerrilla offensive in one of its hospitals in Panama. Major Ruben Rodriguez, Panamanian liaison with the Pentagon's Southern Command, made these remarks as approximately 150 U.S. soldiers with 10 armored personnel carriers were participating in military maneuvers near the Gorgas military hospital.

Major Rodriguez said U.S. Southern Command airplanes "flew to El Salvador" to pick up the wounded. According to him, the wounded will receive medical treatment at Gorgas Hospital. The Panama Defense Forces [FDP] officer, who came to the site where the maneuvers were being held, said the U.S. Southern Command did not inform the Panamanian side about this operation, as the 1977 treaties stipulate. "Since 1987 there has been no coordination, authorization, or communication to conduct these exercises," the officer noted, labeling the maneuvers as "a program of self-sabotage to provoke a military action from Panama."

Maj Rodriguez held U.S. Lieutenant Colonel Robert Perry, Southern Command liaison with the FDP, responsible for any accident, since, he said, the Panamanian people "are sick of all these abuses." Perry declined to comment on Rodriguez' remarks and just said these exercises are coordinated. "I cannot add anything else," he stated.

Officials from the Health Ministry and civilian FDP employees, whose offices are located in front of the Gorgas Hospital in an area that has reverted to Panama through the canal treaties, demonstrated in front of the U.S. soldiers, chanting anti-U.S. slogans.

The Southern Command's 12,000 soldiers, stationed along the canal banks, have increased their operations near Panama City in recent days.

Foreign Minister Kam Comments on OAS Session

PA2111004989 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2214 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Report on news conference by Foreign Minister Leonardo Kam; date and place not given—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Panamanian Foreign Minister Leonardo Kam, speaking about Latin America's position on Panama, said:

"The outcome was that we were able to defeat what a local newspaper today described as the big stick policy against Panama. We were able to see dignified positions and an honorable handling of the Panama issue at the OAS. We must also very honestly say that the Latin American countries are becoming more aware of the essence of the crisis in Panama.

"We know that these countries are under much pressure and that they are being shamelessly blackmailed by the United States. The countries of the region have arrived at the conclusion that the Panama issue has been discussed enough at the OAS and that what is required now is a new point of view to let the Panamanians find their own solutions without foreign meddling.

"It is necessary to let this attitude evolve more so that the countries become more aware of the fact that the main reason for the crisis in Panama is the U.S. aggression against our country. I believe that we are making progress in this direction. Last week THE LOS ANGELES TIMES reported on a new U.S. plan to murder General Noriega. This and other elements are shocking and angering the Latin American countries, which do not want to become accomplices in this criminal U.S. behavior against a country of the region."

Referring to the Panama Plan Five to overthrow General Noriega, a plan drafted by the CIA, Foreign Minister Kam said:

"A text of my speech at the general debate was published here. However, I took advantage of the fact that on Thursday afternoon—the day that THE LOS ANGELES TIMES and a New York City newspaper were reporting on the plan—we were scheduled to speak at the General Assembly debate.

"I decided that it was a good time, the most suitable moment, for noting that the U.S. terrorist policy against Panama had not ended and that criminal U.S. plans against General Noriega had not been dropped.

"I believe that we were clear and categorical in our denunciation. The U.S. delegation did not respond to this denunciation, did not even mention it. It was unable to deny the charge.

"I must state that this report produced concern in the assembly. In private talks with foreign ministers and other delegates, I noticed a feeling of indignation and shock, as I stated earlier. Unfortunately, this indignation and shock could not be made public because of the circumstances involving the assembly session."

Permanent Trade Arrangement Created With USSR

PA2011221189 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1726 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] The Panamanian Government delegation that paid an official visit to the USSR has achieved positive results. The delegation included Planning and Economic Policy Minister Gustavo Gonzalez, Commerce and Industries Minister Elmo Martinez Blanco, Rafael Mezquita, and Carlos Jimenez. They went to the USSR with ideas of opening new international markets for the country in order to cope with the ferocious U.S. Government's economic aggression.

A protocol was signed on 17 November in Moscow that includes the agreements reached during the talks between the Panamanian representatives and the officials of the USSR Foreign Economic Relations Ministry, following 4 days of meetings with organizations of the Soviet state, promoting and marketing enterprises, and banks that operate in the international market, as well as with Soviet Chamber of Commerce officials.

The agreement includes the final arrangements for the installation of a permanent Panamanian commercial representation in the USSR that will begin operations before the end of 1989, and a commercial aviation agreement—that will be signed as soon as possible—that will benefit airlines from the two nations.

It was also announced that a Soviet technical delegation will travel to Panama early in 1990 to conclude with the Panamanian authorities the implementation of investment projects for infrastructural works and a cargo services and transshipment center for the Soviet fishing fleet.

Meanwhile, the Bank for External Transactions of the USSR is studying the possibility of joining the Panama banking center, and will shortly send financial and legal experts to Panama.

Paper Outlines Trade With CEMA Countries

PA2111015289 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 19 Nov 89 pp -C-4, C-6

[Article by Jose M. Espino Gonzalez]

[Text] The Republic of Panama has held commercial agreements with the CEMA countries since 1979. However, trade relations have been minimal, not to say nil. The commercial agreements were made with the following countries:

1. GDR: Signed in Panama on 17 October 1979. Law 10 of 9 November 1981 approved the agreement and it came into force on 5 August 1982.
2. Bulgaria: Commercial agreement signed in Panama on 22 March 1979. Law 6 of 29 October 1979 approved the agreement and it came into force on 15 May 1980.
3. Czechoslovakia: Commercial agreement signed in Panama on 17 April [no year as published]. Law 15 of 31 October 1979 approved the agreement and it came into force on 2 January 1980.
4. Hungary: Commercial agreement signed in Panama on 16 July 1979. Law 19 of 31 October 1979 approved the agreement and it came into force on 14 December 1979.
5. Romania: Commercial agreement signed in Panama on 8 August 1980. It came into force on September 1980.
6. USSR: Commercial agreement signed in Panama on 8 October 1979. It came into force in January 1989.
7. Poland: Negotiations for a commercial agreement with Poland ended a short time ago. The agreement is in the process of being signed.

As we have noted above, the Republic of Panama holds commercial agreements with all the member countries of CEMA.

Commercial relations between the CEMA members and the Republic of Panama are regulated by the signed agreement that stipulates both parties' goals, as well as the procedures and mechanisms to attain them.

On attempting to expand and increase the links between the CEMA countries and the Republic of Panama, one of the matters that must be carefully studied is the contractual basis, as it will make the commercial relationship more compatible, despite the differences that stem from two socioeconomic systems.

Another aspect that merits attention in strengthening our mutual relations is the role played by the mixed commissions that are stipulated in these agreements. The commercial agreements will be implemented as soon as the commission is formed with each CEMA country. In addition, these mixed commissions will adequately enable the contracting parties to continually communicate and attend to matters such as the status of joint ventures, financing, exchange of commercial information, control of the economic cooperation's development, and the recommendation of new agreements.

We render our opinion once again: The mixed commissions must function more dynamically to get the commercial agreements out of their present inoperative state. Once these organizations start to operate properly, commercial exchange will be carried out with more ease.

To study the perspectives of commercial relations between Panama and the CEMA countries, we have to

start by surveying our country's political and social situation. Our country demands transformations in its international relations in order to reduce the vulnerability of our foreign trade, diversify our sources of foreign credit (the World Bank recently announced that Panama "did not qualify for new loans"), seek alternatives for the grave problems resulting from technological dependence, and broaden our horizons for economic cooperation in general with all countries in the world, particularly with Latin American countries. However, strengthening our links with the economies of CEMA member countries acquires special importance in view of the historical moments we are facing.

Panama's commercial relations with CEMA member countries could also contribute to complement national production structures and increase production levels in some areas, particularly in the agroindustrial sector in the production of tropical products (which are in great demand in GATT multilateral commercial negotiations). At the same time, those links would contribute to offer more possibilities for solving Panamanian problems such as the shortage of food, fuel, and other raw material included in the CEMA countries' priority programs, which are of great interest to Panama at this time of national crisis.

Paper Views Haiti Declaring Envoy 'Non Grata'

PA2111012389 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 16 Nov 89 p 5

[From the "Take Note" column]

[Text] The infamous government of General Prosper Avril has declared Panamanian Ambassador Rafael Vargas Santos "persona non grata" merely because, in an act of courtesy, he greeted Haitian leaders who are identified with the Panamanian cause and who are unprecedently being put on trial.

Columnist Says University in Academic Disorder

PA2011133489 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 14 Nov 89 p4

[Editorial: "The University of Panama's Woes"]

[Text] The University of Panama is experiencing one of the worst crises in its history. Enrollment has dropped this semester, and not only and exclusively because of economic problems and the continuing aggression of our country. The problem is much more serious than that. However, everything seems to indicate that there is not the slightest intention of attacking the problem at its roots.

Of course, it is easier to blame everything on the economic crisis. There is a moral, administrative, and academic crisis. The university ignores the nation's current situation and is totally cut off from our country's problems.

There have been illegal payraises for many professors, and most of them are seditious. So-called student leaders who are merely academic fossils are exempt from paying enrollment and monthly school fees.

There are students whose names are not even listed on the college student rolls. You have to move heaven and earth if you try to protest an unfair grade. Absenteeism among professors is even worse than among students. Many professors have low academic levels. In some cases, professors do not even have the slightest notion about how to teach.

The creation of the School of Education has not solved the problem of faulty training of high school teachers. It is a phantom school, scattered throughout the campus. There is no room on campus for the school, and its creation only resulted in the appointment of more seditious professors at the university. The School of Social Communication is even worse. In that school it is a crime to speak of the fatherland or nationalism.

The university'a autonomy is absolute. It has nothing to do with our nation's reality, and it has no programs linked to our country's problems. No Cabinet minister is ever invited to the university to discuss national problems, and no president has been invited in the past few years. It is the only place in our country that General Noriega cannot visit. It is easier for him to enter the United States than to enter the grounds of the university. Meanwhile, they invite Endara to visit the university, and Arias Calderon teaches some subject or another there.

The university is not what it used to be. It is no longer the maximum expression of national values. There is no Patriotic Front [former leftist political group], nor do they carry our flag everywhere. Instead of attacking imperialism, most of the so-called leaders attack the civilians and military men who defend our country's position. None of these events is a coincidence. The enemy has done a good job on the minds and consciences of the students and even the professors.

Students go to the university as if they were going to a fashion show or a museum, and learning is acquired mechanically, disconnected from all reality. They study by inertia, without knowing if there is a future. The "critical mind" is a myth. A visit to the university gives the impression of visiting an academic museum. It is really a fantasy world, full of illusions.

At the rate things are going at the university, we would not be surprised to see the director or someone else order our flag to be lowered and raise the Stars and Stripes instead, and have the campus turned into the offices of Endara, Ford, and Arias Calderon.

The university dropouts are not for economic reasons, but rather because of the academic disorder, the lack of incentives, academic planning, and the fact that education is not linked to Panamanian society. The dilemna is: What is to be done in the face of this university Calvary?

Argentina

Rumors of Cabinet Changes Officially Denied

PY2111024489 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Nov 89

[Relay from Government House by Marta Lopez]

[Excerpt] None of President Carlos Menem's Cabinet members has resigned. The wave of rumors this afternoon, prompted by the dollar escalation, even alleged that there could be a possible bank holiday and some resignations within the Cabinet. All of these rumors and speculations were officially denied by presidential spokesman Humberto Toledo.

Toledo said that the president is not annoyed with the dollar escalation, but that he is very worried; he also denied any resignations within the cabinet.

[Begin Toledo recording] We are aware that there are rumors about disagreements within the government. I therefore want to officially announce that the Cabinet as a whole, including ministers and secretaries of state, is strongly united, working with the full confidence of the president of the nation. These rumors spring up in our country every time the dollar soars up. That is why I am officially reiterating that there are no plans whatsoever to change the government team. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Parallel Dollar Exchange Rate Causing 'Concern'

PY2011202689 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2050 GMT 17 Nov 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Nov (DYN)—As the parallel foreign exchange market closed today, the dollar was selling at 920 australs, more than 40-percent higher than the official exchange rate. This gap was causing great concern in official circles.

The government has insisted that the dollar price escalation in the parallel market is related to the activities of speculators who are trying, among other things, to force a devaluation of the austral. The government will not succumb to this pressure. Financial sources, on the other hand, asserted that the dollar price increase seems to indicate the existence of a "pent-up inflation"; so far this month the prices of some basic products, like cheese, have increased by as much as 50 percent.

Speaking with journalists in Mendoza today, President Carlos Menem said that "we will clip the claws" of the speculators. At that moment, the dollar was selling for 910 australes. Far from calming the market, the president's words seemed to fan the bullish fire. In some operations, the dollar price went up to 930 australs before leveling off at 920, a level 40.46-percent higher than the official market price.

For more than 2 weeks now, the parallel dollar has been selling at more than 20-percent higher than the official dollar. In business circles this is considered to be a "symptom," and there is doubt that this gap can be closed by any market intervention. These business circles recalled that the government had a slight respite in its battle with the speculators last week, when it sent the police into the downtown area in a obvious move to discourage parallel market operations.

Today the Economy Ministry emphatically reiterated that the austral will not be devalued, and that the Central Bank will not intervene in the market to bring down the price of the dollar. Spokesmen there said that the widening of the gap between the parallel and official exchange rates that has taken place over the past few days is the result of "the speculative maneuvers of some big businessmen." These spokesmen added that buyers are "taking refuge" in the dollar because of the substantial reduction in interest rates, seeking what they referred to as "a nervous repercussion in the financial market."

Foreign exchange dealers are saying that supply is not up to demand in the market and that, therefore, big buyers are causing an obvious "disturbance." They also pointed out increases in the prices of basic goods this month, which indicates "the existence of a pent-up inflation" that is "about to explode."

Menem Seeks Reconciliation of Two Labor Boards

PY2011152489 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1250 GMT 19 Nov 89

[Excerpt] Rosario, 19 November (NA)—President Carlos Menem has asked his brother Eduardo, who is the Senate's provisional president, and Interior Minister Eduardo Bauza to try to reconcile the CGT's [General Confederation of Labor] two contending executive boards, one headed by Saul Ubaldini and the other by Guerino Andreoni.

Menem said: "I am not going to intervene because I am the president, but Eduardo Menem and Eduardo Bauza will try to mediate. The idea is to get them to drop their differences, search for points of agreement, and adopt common positions as soon as possible."

Menem said he received "a very good reaction" to his call for labor unity at Plaza de Mayo on 17 November. Menem added: "The two sectors received it very well."

A week from now, Santa Fe Province will hold local mayoral elections. The president visited the city of Rosario in the wake of public surveys indicating that the Popular Socialist Party will win in Rosario, and the Democratic Progressive Party in Santa Fe, the provincial capital. The presidential agenda included appearances at the anniversary celebration of a local television station and a program to collect funds for the emergency solidarity bonus.

Menem also talked with journalists about "the painted faces" officers commanded by Colonel Mohamed Seineldin. Those officers, who rebelled last year and were later

pardoned, recently carried out a public jogging exhibition at Palermo Metropolitan Park.

About the incident the president said: "They have not violated any law; they are protected by the Constitution and our current laws."

The president added, however, that "we have given them a severe warning not to stage anything similar again. If they do it again without heeding our warning, we will do something about it."

Asked by a journalist to comment on the economic situation, Menem said he will be harsh and inflexible "with those who place their own interest over the country's well-being."

The president said: "They have hurt the country badly. They do not deserve to be called Argentines."

Menem criticized the population's "resignation" and inability to change this situation, and added that the country needs a new economic and financial culture.

"Our people do not understand the crisis we have been suffering for a long time," Menem stressed. [passage omitted]

Seineldin Suspends 'Painted Faces' Training

PY2011133589 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1838 GMT 18 Nov 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Nov (NA)—Colonel Mohamed Ali Seineldin suspended a physical exercise session today that he was to hold with a unit of rebel officers and noncommissioned officers. The session was to be held under the slogan of "hard training, easy combat."

Spokesmen for the Army's "painted faces" have reported that the scheduled physical exercises were suspended "to avoid causing problems for President Carlos Menem."

Pictures had been taken of Col Seineldin and former Lieutenant Colonel Aldo Rico as they directed a training session attended by more than 100 military men in Palermo 1 week ago.

President Menem, who admitted that everyone has the right to exercise wherever he pleases, said, however, that the session was "a provocation."

Military sources quoted by the morning newspaper LA PRENSA have said that the pictures were carefully analyzed by intelligence personnel from the Libertador Building, which houses the Army Staff Headquarters.

According to the report, Army Personnel Director General Mario Candido Diaz sent a letter to Col Seineldin ordering him "to abstain from actions, which, if made public, might jeopardize the efforts to unite the Army."

The letter says that "in your capacity as a high-ranking active-duty officer who might be given another assignment, you will abstain from undertaking actions, which, if made public, might jeopardize the efforts to unite the Army and might contradict the position of the Armed Forces commander in chief."

LA PRENSA adds that "a similar instruction was telegrammed to all units."

Seineldin Asks for Review of Officers' Discharge

PY2011131689 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2357 GMT 18 Nov 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Nov (TELAM)—Colonel Mohamed Ali Seineldin has submitted a note to President Carlos Menem, the Armed Forces commander in chief, asking him to reconsider the Army staff decisions to send officers into retirement or to discharge them from duty as a result of the events of Easter Week, Monte Caseros, and Villa Martelli.

The request, which has a sound legal background, was submitted through the Defense Ministry, in view of the fact that Army Chief of Staff General Isidro Caceres refused to grant a request submitted on behalf of the officers in a note released early this week.

PRC Ambassador Reports Menem's Plans for Visit

PY2011214289 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1505 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Nov (TELAM)—Today President Carlos Menem conveyed to PRC Ambassador to Argentina Li Guoxin his "intention to visit that country to further strengthen bilateral relations between the two nations."

This was reported by Guoxin at the end of a meeting with Menem at Government House, although he pointed out that no date has yet been set for the Argentine president's visit. Guoxin added that "Menem has always been interested in strengthening our commercial, cultural, and diplomatic relations" and that the PRC Government "views this Argentine intention in a good light."

The PRC ambassador said that he went to visit the chief of state before he left for the PRC on vacation.

* General Caceres on Restructuring, Other Issues

90ET0032B Buenos Aires SOMOS in Spanish 4 Oct 89 pp 4, 6-9

[SOMOS interview with General Isidro Caceres; date, place not given]

[Text] [SOMOS] Has the groundwork been laid for completely restructuring Army discipline and taking care of the aftermath of the incidents of Holy Week, Monte Caseros, and Villa Martelli?

[Caceres] I think the Army would like to put an end to everything that has happened; it is anxious to get to work on its professional affairs. I believe that spiritually, all of the personnel, senior and junior officers alike, have the understanding and the sense of selflessness necessary to

establish the foundation for the sincere unity that we are pursuing, always on the basis of justice and reason, which is the only thing that will approach that discipline, because a force without discipline is not a military force.

[SOMOS] What is still needed to achieve that objective?

[Caceres] When I got to Rosario I did a comparison, being a person from the coast....When the river overflows its banks, the floodwaters go down very slowly, and what is left is debris and stagnant water. It takes time for it to return to its normal flow. Spirits have been very active, and there has been resentment. I don't think there's been hatred, but emotions ran very high. So, as in all human affairs, it takes time to heal these wounds.

[SOMOS] Is it just a question of time?

[Caceres] I think it's basically a matter of time. But it also requires understanding and selflessness. Understanding, to accept that a comrade who has committed an error because of mistaken behavior in a procedure that was followed will be given a chance to continue onward. Those who were primarily responsible should, in turn, be selfless enough to stop putting their own interests first...otherwise, we will never achieve unity.

[SOMOS] You have the necessary legal instruments at your disposal. What will be the next step?

[Caceres] The defense minister has been very explicit in this regard. There will not be an internal amnesty; there will be a pardon. As such, once it has taken place, if things happen the way we expect, each case will be analyzed individually, individual conduct will be analyzed, and the appropriate disciplinary sanctions will be imposed. We must bear in mind that the sanctions to be imposed on a commanding or superior officer will not be the same as those imposed on a lieutenant or a corporal. The former must know that more moderation, more equanimity, more responsibility is expected of them; they represent the image of authority, and they should not besmirch it with their actions. In the case of subordinate officers, although this does not mean that incorrect behavior will be tolerated,...well, they are young men, and they may have gotten carried away by their temperament or their inexperience.

[SOMOS] Does the pardon in the cases arising out of Holy Week, Monte Caseros, and Villa Martelli mean that participation in these episodes will not appear on the records of the cadres involved?

[Caceres] As I understand it, it will. From the moment these people were indicted or subject to disciplinary sanctions, that necessarily appears in their records. Moreover, it should be pointed out that the individuals were pardoned by an act of the president of the nation and commander in chief.

[SOMOS] Can it be assumed that the internal pardon will eliminate the juridical-administrative web in which the prosecutions and indictments are entangled, leaving the people involved to face only military laws and regulations?

[Caceres] Sure, of course. From the very beginning, specific instructions were given at the evaluation boards that met this year with regard to the people who were subject to administrative measures and disciplinary sanctions, who will not be eligible for the pardon. These people may have been passed over for promotions due to the sanctions, but no one was cashiered, and all remained on active duty. They will have to demonstrate through their service that this was a passing thing, and that they are willing to obey the laws and regulations, as is fitting in a hierarchical organization.

[SOMOS] The previous Army leadership indicated that of all those involved in the three episodes, just over 30 people should be cashiered. What is your opinion in that regard?

[Caceres] Well, I can't talk about numbers, because that would be expressing a premature opinion. The cases will be analyzed by the evaluation boards, and it will be determined who deserves greater or lesser sanctions. As the minister said, the individuals involved will have access to every resource provided by law to defend themselves, to appeal....

[SOMOS] Why has Colonel Seineldin not been proposed for promotion to general? Shouldn't people, the average citizen, be informed?

[Caceres] It is difficult for people to understand, because this is a complex matter that is peculiar to the Army. It is a matter of regulations. Sometimes people may want to be better informed. It may be human nature, which is logical,...but the desire to be informed should not lead to a state of anxiety.

[SOMOS] Is it more important now to consolidate discipline or to take care of the aftermath of the antisubversion struggle?

[Caceres] I think that first we must try to deal as soon as possible with the aftermath of the trials stemming from the war against Marxist subversion, because the way the matter was handled dampened spirits; the military felt that it was under fire. Then there were internal reactions. I think we must remove the thorn of the antisubversion war. Once that source of harm to the Army is gone, what remains is to apply the limited budget to professional tasks.

[SOMOS] What is the Army's attitude toward the superior officers who have been convicted, such as the former commanders and former Generals Camps and Ricchieri?

[Caceres] We believe that the measures that are taken should take all of these men into consideration, otherwise the open wound will never heal entirely. Thus, we hope that our commander in chief and president of the nation can solve this question totally.

[SOMOS] How has the Army reacted to the fact that the pardon was not announced last weekend, as had been promised?

[Caceres] It is obvious that the pardon must be given in accordance with "political timing," and the Army and all of the citizens recognize that this timing falls within the purview of political authorities. The Army, in cooperation with the authorities, is concerned about the fact that during this difficult political moment, there is an increase in attitudes and initiatives by certain groups that do not contribute objectively to the unity of Argentines and to leaving the past behind us. In particular, it is disturbing to witness repeated expressions and actions that attack the institution itself and that do not coincide with the political path elected by the majority of citizens on 14 May.

[SOMOS] Do you see any risks during the period, as yet undefined, between now and when the pardon is finally announced?

[Caceres] I think the entire Army has a great deal of faith in the policy of openness and pacification promoted by the president, and shares the hope of a genuine national renewal. But it is certainly true that we would not be in a position to return to the situations of confrontation that characterized the past we have left behind us, without leading to serious internal consequences.

[SOMOS] You were in the Malvinas. Do you think those responsible for the conduct of that war should also be pardoned?

[Caceres] It is always difficult to separate political leadership from military leadership in a war, especially when the protagonists held both responsibilities. But aside from that, I think that because the Malvinas issue is a national cause, it should be solved also. Argentines think of Malvinas as a heroic, glorious gesture that goes beyond political decisions and what happened militarily.

[SOMOS] In the last few days you have begun to inform the command groups of a restructuring of the General Staff. Can you sum up for us the modifications you have made?

[Caceres] Since 1983 the Army has been studying its own restructuring. With the previous government, plans were submitted to begin the restructuring in stages, but the necessary budgets were not allocated. So until we have the necessary funding, what we are doing is restructuring the top echelon of the Army: the General Staff.

[SOMOS] What is this reorganization like?

[Caceres] It aims to cut red tape, to rationalize the staff that had been assigned to the organs of the General Staff, to streamline management. Everything has been centralized over the last few years, to the extent that I am dealing with minor problems that distract me from the important ones. I think that the chief of staff should spend more time on his relations with the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, the president, with the other branches of government, and with society in general, so that he can inform them of the concerns and requirements of the Army as an institution.

[SOMOS] Are your current powers as chief of the General Staff enough to guarantee the efficient management of the Army?

[Caceres] The functions that the chief of staff now has are much weaker, and therefore less efficient, than the powers the commanding generals or commanders in chief used to have. We have a study on that issue that has been prepared to submit to the president. As commander in chief, he should have the means to command effectively, and if he has confidence in his chief of staff, I think it will be very possible to delegate once again to the chiefs of staff some powers that they do not have now. This will help streamline management and command.

[SOMOS] Should the Defense Law be amended? In what ways?

[Caceres] We have been pushing for a new amendment of this law, in light of what is happening throughout Latin America, especially in Colombia and Peru. We believe that the Armed Forces should be in a position to operate, if the political authorities deem it necessary, whenever the police forces are overwhelmed. But it must be clearly delineated in the law. Until now we have had a decree and also an article in the Constitution empowering the president and commander in chief. But it should be clearly specified in a law what our role should be so that it can be planned out. We want military planning to contribute to the defense of the nation, the necessary budgets. This will allow not only the training and equipment of troops, but also the exclusive dedication of individuals to the military profession, so that they won't be running out of the barracks to work in other places.

[SOMOS] President Menem said in the United States that if Colombia requests it and Congress approves it, he would be willing to send troops to that country. Is the Army in a position to face a situation of that type?

[Caceres] If the political authorities decided that, we would have to take some time to select the troops, equip them, and train them well, because the prestige and image of our nation would be at stake. We would have to form a unit with select personnel.

[SOMOS] What are the characteristics and the limits of the vindication of the antisubversion struggle that the Army is advocating?

[Caceres] We know that by decree there can be no vindication. I am saying that the individuals who had to participate in this kind of war, for which there was no doctrine, no procedure, no equipment—we had to fly by the seat of our pants, with no firm legal backing, no structure that allowed for the prosecution of subversives. So in some situations, each man in this unique war had to apply his own values, the values he had as a man. So there may have been mistakes, but all the mistakes we detected were punished. But the mistakes were not

committed only by military personnel; they were committed by all of society, by the entire Argentine leadership. Otherwise, we wouldn't be where we are today. Moreover, we proceeded with a legitimate mandate under which the struggle was launched, a mandate from the constitutional authorities that employed their Armed Forces. Society here was under attack from a minority sector that tried to impose a different way of life than what the people had chosen, and consequently, the government employed its Armed Forces to defend itself.

[SOMOS] What do you have to say to those who, in different ways, oppose the pardon that President Menem has promised?

[Caceres] That in principle, they are exercising the freedom that all citizens have, and hopefully we Argentines will always have the possibility of dissenting. But I also ask that they respect the ideas of others. We can't keep looking back, as I have said several times, tripping over the rock of the present, because otherwise we will never reach the future that we all desire, united as Argentines, if we keep blaming one another for our mistakes. Who made more mistakes? We will end up counting mistakes. I think that is not a good way to proceed, a good way to move toward the future of the nation.

[SOMOS] What is the Army's situation in terms of budget and equipment?

[Caceres] It is in a situation that is quite, quite...how shall I put it? Difficult. Serious. We will continue asking our commander in chief to give us budgets that are commensurate with the nation's recovery. The first thing we want is what is absolutely essential for putting the weapons systems we have in operable condition. Afterwards, if conditions improve, we want to complete our units and redeploy them, bringing them to the borders. Finally, when it is possible, we will try to obtain other war materiel, with more advanced technology.

[SOMOS] Do you still go along with the idea of a smaller army, with fewer troops but more operative and professional?

[Caceres] Yes, that has been repeated many times. The problem is, when people begin talking about numbers,...the desires flag a little. It is not impossible to have a smaller and more operative army, but it is necessary to have the necessary equipment and advanced technology. That army is impossible to achieve right now. It would be unrealistic in Argentina the way it is today ...How can we have a rich army in the middle of poverty?

[SOMOS] Does that imply keeping compulsory military service?

[Caceres] We have answered in part. A professional army is much more expensive. Moreover, so far it has been a system that has played a civilizing and educating role. To be sure, that cannot be seen here, in the big capital, but in the interior, we get boys who have never slept in beds with sheets and have never had underwear. That is a fact. The Army gives them food, medical care, contributes to their civic education, and in many cases teaches them to read. And we can advance further with short courses to train semi-specialized manpower.

[SOMOS] Do the defense industries still have priority objectives?

[Caceres] In the Malvinas we discovered that many of our weapons needed spare parts that we couldn't get because they were in enemy hands, or in the hands of friends of the enemy at that time. So we believe that we must be able to maintain an industry that will ensure self-sufficiency in the bare essentials, what we need in order to have a kind of independence in management. We also know, but that is a matter of government policy, about the possibility of attaining export status so that we can maintain those plants. We do have as a priority objective the achievement of a degree of self-sufficiency.

[SOMOS] How do you envision the Army in the near future?

[Caceres] I see it continuing to be an important institution in the Republic, one that will contribute to the stability of our way of life, that will show solidarity with society. We ask for understanding and mutual respect for the role that the Constitution assigns the Army. We don't want outsiders meddling in our affairs, because if politics interferes with the Army, the Army will end up interfering in politics, as history shows us.

[Box, p 7] A Man From the Coast

Isidro Bonifacio Caceres gives the impression of a "cowboy," one of those officers who must feel more comfortable out in the field, dealing directly with his men, than in the strategy room. Candid in his responses—he seems to be diagramming them mentally in their development, putting them in an order from which he never deviates—he usually punctuates them with idioms and provincial sayings.

He is a typical product of Corrientes (his comrades have nicknamed him "Cuchillito" [the little knife], referring to a knife of considerable size that he is never without, and uses at mealtime), and all of his gestures emphasize that he is a man from the coast. When he uses an emphatic expression in conversation, he immediately seeks to attenuate it with a gesture of humility or a smile that is not devoid of timidity. He reached the position of chief of the General Staff (his name had been mentioned many months before he was appointed) with a widely recognized reputation. Those with the "carapintada" recognized his professional virtues and his military conduct, even though Caceres played an important role in the initial stage of the events that culminated in the Monte Caseros rebellion in January 1988, when he advanced with the tanks of the 1st Brigade of Tandil on Buenos Aires to surround the "Los Fresnos" country club where Lieutenant Colonel Aldo Rico was ensconced. In December of that year, he played a key role in avoiding a confrontation between the forces of

"Operation Virgen del Valle," commanded by Mohamed Ali Seineldin, and the group taking orders from Francisco Gassino.

As soon as he took over as chief of the General Staff, Caceres changed the traditional formula of "subordination and courage" to "confidence, subordination, and courage." Once, he explained that in this way he wanted to demand openly that his subordinates have the necessary attitude to enable the commanding officer to do his duty. This condition, which is an innovation in military custom, may be an indication of the complexity of the delicate moment during which he has been asked to take command.

* Condor Project Negotiable Demands Discussed

90ET0032A Buenos Aires SOMOS in Spanish
4 Oct 89 pp 18-19

[Article by Hernan Pereyra]

[Text] "The Condor project is absolutely negotiable, but we'll have to see what they give us in exchange," a high-ranking Air Force official told SOMOS. This statement was in agreement with another one made by a high-ranking source at the Defense Ministry, to the effect that "this technological development is an element of diplomatic pressure today."

In a more controversial vein, President Carlos Menem, on his recent visit to the United States, told his colleague George Bush (Wednesday the 27th) that "the missile will not cross our borders," and explained that it had been developed for purely "technological," not aggressive purposes, including the prospect of putting satellites into orbit. The following day he declared, in response to statements by Barber Conable, that "Argentina will continue developing its program of manufacturing the missile known as Condor II for sale, with the goal of strengthening peace, as France and the United States say when they sell arms to other countries."

The fact is that on his visit, Menem was accompanied by the head of the Argentine Air Force, Brigadier General Jose Julia, for the purpose of negotiating the possible sale of nearly 800 Pampa IA-63 training jets to that country's Air Force and Navy. A partnership with an American firm is essential to clinch the deal, and it is known that talks are progressing with McDonnell Douglas.

This corporation, General Electric, and General Dynamic are the most important U.S. suppliers of armaments. McDonnell has among its principal shareholders important businessmen linked to the Mormon Church, and businessmen with strong ties to Vatican authorities work for General Electric. The third firm, General Dynamic, owns a U.S. business group made up of retired military officers and businessmen.

There have been negotiations with all three corporations, but McDonnell has priority, since it has fewer current contracts with the Armed Forces of its country. This puts it at a relative advantage in the transaction, government sources explained to SOMOS.

The Pampa jet that Argentina would like to sell was developed by the Cordoba Military Aircraft Plant in conjunction with the West German firm Dornier. It is considered to be an advanced model in its class (it takes 10 years to develop the prototype of a jet).

Spokesmen for the Air Force told SOMOS that the chief of the United States Air Force told them after the jet was tested in the United States that "technically it is the best we've seen. Now the problem is a political one, and that is beyond my decisionmaking sphere. We will recommend it, but we don't make the decision."

The United States Air Force will have to decide by the end of 1990 which training jet it will use for the coming decade to replace the current T-38s. It would purchase a total of 538 aircraft, and the Navy is interested in buying 200. The Pampa did well on the tests for operating on aircraft carriers.

A transaction of this nature would amount to about $2.4 billion, and would gain Argentina entry into the "club" of major military aircraft manufacturers. Actually, the aircraft would not be manufactured entirely in Argentina; the process would be integrated with McDonnell, and the components would have to be 51 percent American, as dictated by legislation passed in Washington on the purchase of weaponry.

The German firm Dornier, which drew up the development plans for the Pampa, is also interested in the transaction. The German Air Force trains its pilots in the United States, and may also want to purchase Pampas. Dornier contends, very optimistically, that the 800 aircraft could grow to 1,100, and the Common Market in which the NATO partners are involved could open up.

But there is where the red lights go on, because the only strong competitor to the Pampa is the 211, made by Aeromacchi. The Italians made room in Sicily for the bases that the United States had to abandon in Spain, and in exchange, they could ask to supply training jets for the United States. Argentine pilots claim that the 211 "can't hold a candle" to the Pampa, but they fear that the strength of the political-military partnership of the North Atlantic could outweigh the technical merits of the Argentine aircraft.

If the Americans demand that the Condor missile project be deactivated in exchange for their purchase of the Pampa, Buenos Aires will probably ask for a few other things. The first is the normalization of the supply of spare parts and weapons, which were subject to embargoes first over human rights and then over the Malvinas War. Argentina will also ask that the embargo on Dagger jets (the Israeli version of the Mirage) be lifted so that the jets downed in the conflict with Great Britain could be replaced with new purchases from Israel.

The Condor project, developed under top secret conditions (until just over a year ago) in the unknown Cordoba location of Falda del Carmen, consists of a rocket capable of carrying a payload of 400 kg a distance of 1,000 km. To become a missile, all of the guidance technology must be developed, among other things.

In 1983 Argentina signed a pact with Egypt in order to improve this project. When the Israelis found out about the agreement they reacted strongly. One of the companies that provided technology for the project was headquartered in Monaco, although it was German. A car loaded with explosives ran into the company's headquarters in an operation attributed to the secret service in Tel Aviv.

French diplomatic sources admitted that prior to this action, the offices had been raided (they actually say that the offices were an ordinary, rustic apartment shared by three Germans who claimed to be commercial representatives of the German firm) and that nothing of value for the investigation was found. After the assault, the Germans disappeared.

Sources at the Defense Ministry stated that the partnership with the Arabs "has many obstacles, because they are very slow in putting up the money," but they admitted that the project is still going forward, though within the current budgetary limitations.

The same sources explained that at the moment no one is interested in joining a partnership with the military aircraft manufacturer in the private sector. But sources at the Air Force indicated that if the plan to sell the Pampas to the United States progresses, interested parties will come "in droves."

At Defense and the Air Force, it was also agreed that Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, and Colombia are definitely interested in having the Pampa, and that the first aircraft sold abroad will probably go to Colombia. Argentina is also striving to generate some interest on the part of Brazil, as it currently lacks a plane similar to the Pampa to train its pilots.

Finally, the Israelis found that the aircraft could be of use to them, completing a wide array of potential customers. "But, as always, it will be diplomacy and politics that determine the fate of this aircraft. We are open to any contingency," reasoned the Argentine military official who was interviewed about this matter.

Former President Alfonsin Elected UCR Leader

PY2011174789 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2350 GMT 18 Nov 89

[Excerpt] Former President Raul Alfonsin was elected the new leader of the Radical Civic Union [UCR] this evening. He will head the executive board of the party national committee, in which all factions are represented.

Alfonsin will head the committee for 2 years. Alfredo Orgaz from Cordoba, Luis "Changui" Caceres from Santa Fe, and Alberto Espeche from Salta, will be the first, second, and third vice presidents, respectively.

The other members of the executive board, who were elected during a plenary session at the Buenos Aires UCR headquarters are: Oscar Machado, Genaro Collantes, Horacion Lugones, Rodolfo Parente, Gregorio Pomar, Prospero Nievas, Nestor Golpe, Antonio Troccoli, Alberto Maglietti, Luis Kornel, Elpidio Isla, Raul Galvan, Luis Bonino, Daniel Andrini, Alberto Day, Liborio Pupillo, Antonio Macris (treasurer), and Miguel Ortiz Pellegrini (deputy treasurer)

The election of a single list was reached after intense negotiations involving the Alfonsin-led sector, whose spokesmen were Raul Alconada Sempe and Jose Jaunarena, and an opposition group linked with Cordoba governor Eduardo Angeloz, whose negotiators were Antonio Troccoli, Edgardo Grosso, and Luis Leon.

The opposition wanted 7 out of the 24 seats in the executive board, but they settled for 6.

As he had previously announced, Buenos Aires coordinating board president Federico Storani did not join the executive board. He said that he only aspired to become president of the bloc of national deputies. [passage omitted]

State Railways To Transfer to Employee Ownership

PY2011200289 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 20 Nov 89 p 7

[Text] (NA-DYN) Economic Coordination Secretary Orlando Ferreres said yesterday that the Ferrocarriles Argentinos state-held railway company will "very soon" be passed into the hands of its employees, and that Citibank will be the "administrator of this transformation," press reports revealed yesterday.

The official explained that "the state will give up the railways and Citibank will take over their personnel," adding that "very good salaries will be paid for a seven-year period and people will be selected for the job."

In statements to the Clarin daily, Ferreres pointed out that "19 railway companies will be created around the country, and the current deficit of 800 million dollars a year will disappear."

Asked whether the railways will be privatized, Ferreres replied that "the railways will belong to the company's employees," and that, as administrator, Citibank will be paid a percentage of the revenue.

Moreover, Ferreres pointed out that "the purchasing power of wages has doubled from July until now."

*** Follow-Up on MTP Organization; New Findings**

90ET0034A Buenos Aires SOMOS in Spanish 11 Oct 89 pp 9-13

[Article by Hector Simeoni: "Guerrilla War: What Remains After the Uprising at La Tablada Barracks"; first paragraph is editorial comment]

[Text] An intelligence report states that the MTP [All for the Fatherland Movement] is reportedly almost intact. There is allegedly a new seditious group: the GAR [Revolutionary Action Group]. Classified documents indicate that the Fifth Congress of the most violent, ultraleftist group has reportedly been held.

Several weeks ago a number of organizations basically devoted to intelligence directed alarmed attention to the northern province of Misiones. An operation had just ended there (two persons were arrested) which made it possible to intercept a substantial shipment of arms. Subsequently, the operation led to a real arsenal of weapons hidden in the depths of the jungle. Information was received which indicated that the director of the investigation had provided a certain, classified report obtained from Brazilian military intelligence which some time ago had been carefully observing the "very permeable" border with Argentina.

Everything seems to indicate that the initial assumptions—that the authorities were dealing with one of the elements of the organization reportedly supplying weapons to violent groups which might be preparing themselves for action in the country—were not confirmed by later investigations.

What had certainly been discovered was a powerful organization simply involved in the arms traffic. A person with long experience in this kind of investigation told SOMOS: "Everything has become very complicated. At present Argentina has become a country where civilians go around armed to the teeth, beyond any effective control by the government. There is a black market in highly sophisticated weapons, sold by people who have no political ideology. They only offer this equipment to the highest bidder. Large quantities of weapons are going to the criminal underworld, strengthened by the drug trade. Other weapons are obtained by private companies and, frankly, we cannot say how many weapons are going into the hands of potential subversives. The only requirement to obtain these weapons is having the necessary money (a lot of it) to buy them."

SOMOS had access to several reports prepared by the intelligence departments of various security organizations. In all previous estimates by these departments one assumption was underlined: the high possibility that a future, subversive group would have these weapons if it should decide to equip itself with them and if it had the neede funds.

Another phenomenon which is increasingly being taken seriously by observers experienced in these matters, is the regular appearance of persons linked to guerrilla movements (but clearly in secondary positions) who are engaged in common criminal activity. A source stated: "Here there is a gap in the analysis. How has it happened that these members of the 'heavy end of the Left' are involved in these activities? It could be that their international connections are not as generous as they were in the past. (Perestroyka has also reached this region of the world.) What is not known is whether these persons are involved in this activity only to make money or whether they are collecting funds for a future offensive."

In any case the majority of the sources consulted agree in looking for an historical link between the violent remnants of the Left who may still have survived and the dead ERP [People's Revolutionary Army].

Some video cassettes, which were analyzed recently, on the events at Villa Martelli show how a few small squads of civilians were operating under a centralized leadership. They had arms and explosives, which they used on a very few occasions. On one occasion a certain kind of Molotov cocktail was used in which a small, elastic band of permeable paper kept the sulphuric acid and potassium chlorate separate until the moment for the explosion.

The weapons were brought out on only one occasion: during the final clash with the police.

About 2 months later the events at La Tablada Barracks occurred which culminated in the annihilation of a section of the MTP. During the trial of those who participated in the round-up some interesting testimony was given:

"A study of the lives of the detainees provided no evidence that the MTP had been destroyed. Although they were very careful to open up for examination that part of the structure which remained, those of us who are experienced in these matters were able to conclude that only a small part of the MTP had been annihilated, on the basis of the following:

- The MTP continues functioning like a typical 'organization.' Neither those who were arrested nor their family members were at any time left without provision for their basic needs.
- Father Puigjane surrendered, for example, on instructions from the 'organization' which, knowing his spiritual influence, did not want anyone to 'break' and talk about the matter any further.
- During the trial, 'arrangements' were made for the transportation of witnesses and, with showy efficiency, appearances were arranged from very remote areas; there were inexplicable disappearances.
- A more detailed investigation of the connections made clear by these movements made us certain that the organization is functioning effectively in at least six provinces."

One of the theories most accepted by intelligence circles refers to the existence of a new organization which is reportedly called the GAR. It was supposedly established on 16 June 1989. According to reports it is composed of

the surviving section of the MTP, the group called the Party of Liberation, substantial splinter groups of the Communist Youth Federation (which split off in 1988 and 1989), and an unknown number of cells which reportedly belonged to the Montoneros [anarchist group in Uruguay].

According to an expert in such matters, the most difficult phenomenon to study is "the Montoneros." He said: "Since Firmenich went over to nonviolence and announced that he was abandoning the armed struggle, the discussion within my office has gone into more detail. How many of them left the movement? This would amount to asking into how many pieces did a crystal glass break."

Intelligence reports indicate that the GAR is working to build its bases in Greater Buenos Aires, Rosario, Tucuman, Mendoza, and Chaco.

To what extent do these activities pose an imminent danger? According to a reliable intelligence source, it is difficult to say, although it could be assumed that the activity is aimed at the midterm: "These people seem to have abandoned the tactics of building a focus, of classic, urban guerrilla activity, and of direct confrontation. Now they have adopted ebb and flow activity which they are trying to adapt to what they call 'the state of mind of the masses.' When there is social agitation, they try to keep one step ahead of the activities, going along with them in the front rank but not much more. This kind of activity serves to draw militants to action, and they choose the most violent among them. If this analysis is correct, at this time, then consequently and due to the relative degree of relaxation of social tensions, we would seem to be in a period of decline. This does not mean that they are not continuing to train their cadres (they probably have about 180 fighters) and are looking for money to provide them with equipment."

It has been stated that there probably are potential guerrilla fighters behind various forms of illegal business: "expropriations" (attacks, generally using firearms), the sale of automobiles which have been involved in accidents (at times these are stolen), holdups on the highway by "road pirates," drug trafficking, etc.

Some intelligence reports which have circulated recently speak of the holding of a so-called "Fifth Congress," which reportedly brought together the most violent elements of the ultraleft. During this congress it was reportedly decided formally to establish a "revolutionary army," intended to support "effectively mass actions of the people's camp."

It is known that in some areas of the country training courses for "officers" are being held. These include training in the martial arts, explosives, counterintelligence, firing weapons, training in the use of arms and munitions, organization, the falsification of documents, etc.

The security forces are presently keeping constant vigilance regarding the work of activists in the so-called "pockets of poverty," particularly in the shanty towns located near the large cities. The work of agitators is being noted when it increases in intensity under specific circumstances in particular. About 2 months ago a campaign in Greater Buenos Aires ended in failure. It promoted civil disobedience in the form of refusing to pay taxes or charges for public services. During the recent floods on the banks of the La Plata River organized groups (some of them armed) tried to surround and take over relief efforts. Attention has been paid to the activities of organized groups regarding protests which arose concerning posters distributed about the so-called "solidarity bonds."

Another report pointed out: "In the trade union field these groups are working in base committees, particularly in large factories. At this stage they have abandoned the tactic of promoting workers' claims 'without further preparation.' They prefer to prepare themselves for the possibility that objective developments will facilitate their activities. In many places (and especially in some large factories in the Zarate and Campana area) they have the capacity to undertake large-scale actions if trade union actions follow massive suspensions of work or firings."

The attention of the security forces has been directed in the past weeks toward three areas in the interior of the country. Tucuman Province is considered literally a "powder keg." (The drought has resulted in a partial failure of the sugar cane harvest. There are 200,000 unemployed in the provincial capital and neighboring areas alone, and the people are convinced that great administrative corruption is taking place.) In Tucuman the structure of violence has been prepared for years and is practically intact. Chaco is also considered a "dangerous area" and, in descending order, Cordoba is arousing some concern, although unrest is feared there from public employees and workers from the industrial belt.

In short, all of the sources we have checked closely link the possibilities for effective action by guerrilla groups to a more or less growing deterioration in social and political conditions. A document seized recently, written by a leader of the ultraleft, stated: "The events of June (he referred to a wave of lootings) found us unprepared. We were only in a position, and then just in the final phase, to coordinate the lootings in a few areas. Things are going to be different the next time."

The fact is that, despite what was said repeatedly at the time of these events, the organized groups were not in a position to plan the lootings. It is admitted that although there were many lootings during the previous period of agitation, they lacked the organized structure to make it possible for them to control the insurrection and to direct it properly toward broader objectives. In the same internal analysis it was stated:

"We were not able to detect in time, and even less to take preventive action, against the counterintelligence activities of the enemy. It was enough for the enemy's counterintelligence to begin to spread rumors that a

given residential quarter would be invaded by the residents of other quarters to divide the people and to ensure that the action in support of the people's claims would wind down by itself."

A study provides the outline of what has been called the "profile of a revolutionary of the 1980's," which distinguishes him from the guerrilla fighter who was active in the 1970's in the following way:

(a) He is a marginal element in the social and economic sense.

(b) He has a very low cultural level.

(c) He has only elementary political training.

(d) He is convinced that he has no future (and, therefore, nothing to lose). (e) He is prone to violent action.

(f) He is attracted to new models for his country (the Sandinist model in Nicaragua, for example).

Another study, considered the most accurate, reportedly indicates that the violent ultraleft at present has about 80 men in Argentina ready to take command. It could reportedly put into the field about 500 armed and properly trained militants.

At present, the source of this study is directing its investigative activity as an intelligence organization to a field not included within those groups previously mentioned: Catholic groups following the so-called "liberation theology" and above all the so-called "grass-roots church communities" which are very active in some of the poorer residential areas. Evidence of this is held very closely, although it has happened that some of these communities reportedly have achieved almost surprising results.

[Box, p 10] One More Chapter: Those Found Guilty Still Protest

[Article by Alejandra Rey]

The 20 persons arrested for having attempted to take over La Tablada Barracks spent the last 15-minute recess before hearing their sentences eating shortcake.

When the moment came to hear the sentence, Hebe de Bonafini, the leader of the so-called "Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo," was heard to say: "I am going to stand up so the boys can see me."

In a small room nearby a comment was made that the court had reduced the sentences which had originally been intended for some of those who had been found guilty. According to this view, Father Puigjane was to be sentenced to 23 years in prison.

Another rumor stated that the status of these prisoners in Caseros Prison is rather precarious, particularly the situation affecting Roberto Feliccetti, who has made many enemies for himself among his former comrades. It appears that Father Puigjane took over the job of "calming the boys down," as they literally want to "liquidate" their former comrade for having led them into the present situation. Nevertheless, when the court session was over, Feliccetti hugged all of them.

The defense attorneys tirelessly accused the Federal Court of San Martin of bias. They pointed out that the sentence did nothing more than ratify the intervention of the armed forces in a domestic disturbance case. They gave as an example the refusal of the members of the court to accede to three motions challenging the fitness of the court to try the case. They also pointed to the rejection of a motion to have a confrontation in open court between [President] Raul Alfonsin and Victor Martinez, the first of whom stated that constitutional continuity was in danger, while the latter denied that this was the case. They referred to the contradictory testimony of Alfonsin and General Arrillaga. Alfonsin commented that he had initially ordered that the rebels should be ordered to surrender. Gen Arrillaga stated that the orders which he received instructed him to annihilate the enemy physically.

The defense attorneys also questioned the acceptance by the court of evidence seized by the Army before the investigating judge had begun his part. They complained bitterly about the rejection of the motion requesting testimony by expert witnesses who, according to them, would have been able to demonstrate that the military used phosphorus bombs during the operation against the rebels.

At the political level they expressed regret over what they called the "lack of understanding" on the part of the Left in general. They did not spare Luis Zamora, the leader of the MAS [Movement Toward Socialism], for having said that he "hardly knew" the late Jorge Banos when "in reality they shared the handling of many court cases." The defense attorneys plan to continue requesting that Raul Alfonsin be tried for having given false testimony—although in private they admit that it will be very difficult to do this. They accuse Alfonsin of being a liar for having stated that when he saw the detainees for the first time, they were dressed, contrary to what was stated by an Army doctor called Blanco, who said that, in fact, they were naked and had hoods over their heads.

They also declined to excuse Enrique Nosiglia for having allegedly told a lie and they also wish to have him tried. He has stated that prior to 23 January 1989 he did not know Feliccetti. The defense attorneys swear that this is not true.

The frustrated defense attorneys have only one reason for congratulating themselves: the recent decision by the Supreme Court of Brazil which, by unanimous vote of its 11 members, decided to refuse the extradition of Fernando Falco (one of the participants in the attempted uprising). The Brazilian judges considered that the crime for which he was going to be tried was political in nature.

[Box, p 12] If It Should Happen Again

In military circles extensive circulation has been given to a report of Gen Alfredo Arrillaga, former Army inspector

and presently awaiting assignment. He was given responsibility for putting down the uprising at La Tablada Barracks.

Gen Arrillaga makes an extended analysis of the subversive action and then turns to the "aspects which should be kept in mind in this kind of combat and in view of the real situation facing the Army." These are some of his conclusions:

Command: In these confused and fluid situations involving a high level of violence, authority must be delegated down to units amounting to a section or squad in size. They must be psychologically prepared to deal with possible negotiations involving hostages or to initiate hostilities even at the cost of their lives.

Organization for Combat: (1) You will have not what is desirable but what is available at the moment.

(2) The force which will have to carry out the operation, due to the situation in which the Army finds itself, will be made up of small units in the order of a squad, which will not meet together at the same time, which do not know each other, and which lack effective means of communication.

(3) Available armored vehicles will lack adequate maintenance. This was especially noticeable in the case of 20 mm cannons, which jammed easily.

(4) Organization for combat will be difficult to achieve because of the differences in the leadership controlling the force which every element of the Army is organizing to regain control of installations. For example, colonels will be found in charge of three groups of sharpshooters.

(5) There will be a lack of logistical support necessary to conduct operations. As time went on, it was possible to organize a real first aid station which functioned very well. After midnight a time was set for distributing water.

(6) Police units, military personnel in civilian clothes or partly in uniform who are found fighting in isolation or in nonorganic groups on the external perimeter of the barracks and, in some cases, inside the barracks, have a negative affect on combat organization, due to the impossibility of controlling them.

(7) Under present circumstances the lack of means of communications will be almost total.

Attack on the Building: (1) The strength of the building to be attacked will determine the force to be used. This force must be in sufficient strength to make the subversives fighting in the given place surrender or be destroyed. These forces, or a combination of them, will be selected from those which the commander has available and in many cases will not be the most suitable in accordance with what established doctrine prescribes.

(2) Small subversive forces, well equipped and trained and protected from view and from the fire which might be brought to bear on them, will require a major effort to force them to surrender and to clear the positions which they occupy.

(3) The security of your own troops is basic, since an attack on a building without suitable fire support would expose them to fire from sharpshooters and from a crossfire from different support points.

(4) The lack of adequate methods of protection against tear gas will prevent its use, due to the effects on our own troops.

(5) The location of the installations to be recovered within heavily populated areas will make it necessary to be sure that each round of heavy arms fired will hit the target selected. This consideration will work against the time factor.

(6) The present shortages of equipment and other supplies will force us to undertake various kinds of attack. Night operations will have to be suspended, and this will make it easier for the subversives to escape.

(7) The assault on the building will be the critical moment for the attack and will produce the largest number of casualties. This will make it necessary to adopt in advance adequate measures for the evacuation of the wounded.

Surrounding the Subversives: (1) In this kind of operation surrounding the subversives will be as important as an attack and will be more important, especially during the hours of darkness, due to the lack of adequate resources for an attack.

(2) It will be very difficult to have sufficient forces available during the time desired, which will require detailed coordination with the security and police forces.

(3) Military personnel will arrive individually, which will result in completing the circle surrounding the subversives only gradually, thereby giving the subversives an opportunity to escape.

(4) Fire discipline will be of great importance and even more so when there is a lack of night visors to prevent exchanges of fire between our own troops or falling into the trap of responding blindly to fire from the subversives.

(5) Squad leaders must take great care in selecting fire sectors for their subordinates during daylight hours. These sectors can be marked with whatever means are available so that they will be respected during hours of darkness.

(6) It will be appropriate to designate more than one sharpshooter to cover windows, doors, or other building apertures.

Advice: (1) To avoid confusion and disorder, dress the troops quickly in combat uniform.

(2) Demand strict respect for fire discipline.

(3) Personnel who join an operation to regain control of a building must have individual rations.

(4) Arrange in advance for first aid support and especially for the evacuation of the wounded.

(5) When every arm or service of the Army organizes a unit to regain control of a building, it must equip it in accordance with its use and not just as a section of sharpshooters. For example, a small unit of engineers could have two groups of sharpshooters and one of flamethrowers.

(6) Troops which join in operations to regain control of a building should have fully reconnoitered the place which they will occupy in the surrounding circle or at the assembly point to fit in with the attacking force.

(7) There must be common recognition signals and variations of them as the fight goes on.

(8) Set up a communications network, even with the limited means available.

(9) Set up within the barracks points for individual resistance against subversive attack and thereby cancel out the factor of surprise.

Chile

Minister Says CNI Files May Be Destroyed

PY1611163789 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Vice Admiral Patricio Carvajal has said that when the National Information Center [CNI] is disbanded some of its files will probably be destroyed. The minister made this remark after a meeting with order and security personnel at La Moneda Palace. Carvajal said the bill disbanding the CNI is under study and that the Defense Ministry is concerned because it will have to reassign those military personnel on security assignment at the CNI. Those personnel will continue working for other national defense institutions.

Carvajal said the civilian personnel at CNI might be assigned to other institutions to implement similar security functions.

Carvajal said these institutions [as heard] have equipment that might be useful in the future. Carvajal added that the documents are divided into secret, reserved or confidential, and public. Carvajal said the documents are reviewed periodically to see if they are still useful or if they should be destroyed, reclassified, or made public.

Carvajal said that some CNI files will probably be destroyed, and others will be saved. According to the minister, CNI officials will carry out the destruction of any files. [passage omitted]

High-Ranking Officer Disagrees With CNI Future

PY1611214189 Santiago APSI in Spanish 23-29 Oct 89 pp 16-19

[Report on interview with unidentified high-ranking army officer by reporter; date and place not given—quotation marks as received]

[Excerpt] A high-ranking Army officer on active duty has said: "I do not understand the opposition. They have been told in a most open fashion what will happen to the CNI (National Intelligence Center) and they have not even lifted a finger. It is unbelievable. Perhaps they are too busy with the campaign and with the elections. Everyone knows that the "big coup" will be staged in January, and no one has said a word."

[Reporter] Which big coup?

[Officer] It was announced through two articles in EL MERCURIO. Several people, including some opposition members, were already aware of it; the CNI will be officially absorbed into the Army. It will remain totally unchanged. All CNI staff will be transferred to the DINE (Army Intelligence Directorate). Not a single CNI agent will be dismissed.

[Reporter] Does the entire Army agree with this decision?

[Officer] No. I am one of a group of officers who radically disagree with this measure. Naturally, we cannot state our disagreement, because if we did we would be liable to be punished.

[Reporter] While the candidates chant "dismantle the CNI", which is something that many assume will happen, the truth is quite different and obvious.

The "course of action" mentioned [as published] by this officer is nothing but a "smoke screen". The so-called "courses" suggest a number of alternatives regarding the future of the CNI. The possibility that it may be absorbed by the Navy, the Air Force, the Carabineros, or the investigative police has been disseminated in the form of "leaks."

The officer said that the civilians' lack of knowledge on the subject is being used against them. But to a military man it is quite obvious: It is completely infeasible for the CNI, which is basically linked to the Army, to be absorbed by any institution other than the Army. There are no such "courses of action."

[Reporter] Why do some officers disagree with this decision?

[Officer] It would take too long to answer this question. It would mean discussing an essential matter, that is, the Armed Forces' role under a civilian government. In sum, although we believe that the Army and the Armed Forces should focus their attention on internal issues, the "professionalization" about which the opposition talks is absolutely inconceivable for any military man"—we do not believe they should follow that which is imposed by

the CNI. This would undoubtedly become a modus operandi within the Army. We do not trust the CNI people. One must recognize that many of them are real criminals. People of this sort can do no good to the Army or to the country if they are given this work.

[Reporter] The maneuvers started some time ago, but they started to take shape when General Humberto Leiva was replaced a few months ago as CNI director by Brigadier General Gustavo Abarzua. Very few realized, but the "trap" was quite obvious: Abarzua is also the present DINE director. According to the high ranking officer, ("although I am not personally aware of this") people linked to the electoral campaign team of presidential candidate Hernan Buchi had tried to make the change in January, not before then.

In this way, those same agents involved in cases of torture, illegal arrests, murders during alleged "clashes", raiding of private property, espionage, and other abuses would be able to continue, but under the Army from now on.

It has been stated that the CNI would no longer be an "operative" organization. In other words, theoretically speaking, it would be in charge only of "intelligence" tasks, of collecting information, of having thousands of "stool pigeons" posted all over the country, and of preserving its ample archives. According to the officer, this last task was decisive in the decision to transfer the CNI to the Army. "It holds information on the most unbelievable people: it has been used publicly by people like Julio Alvaro Corbalan (former CNI operations director). The Army does not want to, and probably is not allowed to, get rid of that information."

The officer mentioned another reason that prompted the decision:

[Officer] Can you imagine what would happen if it were announced that "the CNI is being dismantled". It is quite inconceivable. The stampede would be too costly for the Armed Forces. Imagine if all those desperate people start to "talk". It is precisely those people who currently demand (literally) to continue to receive protection. So this is the "prize" they are getting.

[Reporter] But don't you agree with this since you are still a member of the Army?

[Officer] First, quite a few of us believe that the correct processing of certain actions will not discredit the Army. Moreover, this should be done, because setting a precedent can tarnish the image of any military unit. But, above all, we are concerned about the sort of people who will continue, with a free hand now, to carry out these tasks. Nobody can guarantee that they will only take care of intelligence tasks. Or do you believe that they will stop bugging the telephones overnight, for example? It is, undoubtedly, a complex area in which there could be a technical dispute over what is regarded as intelligence.

[Reporter] Do you think that the CNI people who are currently under the DINE, will continue to carry out operations?

[Officers] Its quite unlikely because there will be other authorities, like a parliament, that could pose obstacles. The CNI might exert systematic and unbearable pressure on the investigative police and Carabinero forces that are authorized to carry out these tasks.

[Reporter] Does this mean that the CNI forces will continue to head what they call the "antisubversive struggle"?

[Officer] That is right. But I am not so sure that "head" is the appropriate word. Time will tell. Carabineros, through the GOPE [Special Police Operations Group], and especially the investigative police, are making an effort to fulfill this role. However, it is quite clear that Carabineros have no intention of confronting the Army, or anybody else. The Carabineros are engaged in "cleaning" their image, and that entails a lot. Moreover, they are determined to carry out "professional" intelligence. It is quite clear that the DINE would be on the other path. I think conflicts can be expected. [passage omitted]

Merino Discusses Communist Candidates, CNI

PY1811015089 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 14 Nov 89

[Report from Iquique by Angelina Rojas]

[Excerpts] Admiral Jose Toribio Merino Castro said in Iquique today that no Communist members can run as candidates for congress, because, according to the law, if they ran as candidates of a legal party and won a seat, the future congress could disqualify them.

[Begin Merino recording] There cannot be Communist congressmen, because the law forbids it. If a Communist runs as a candidate of a legal party, Congress could possibly disqualify him. [end recording]

In response to questions from the media, Adm Merino said that the National Intelligence Center, CNI, will not become part of the Army, but that all its active duty members will return to their institutions, while the rest will go home.

[Begin Merino recording] The CNI will disappear. Its active duty members will return to their original institutions, and the rest will go home. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Merino made these statements during a visit to the (Carlos Colde) Sea Institute in Iquique. [passage omitted]

CDT President Withdraws Support for Aylwin

PY2011233389 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] Eduardo Rios, president of the Workers Democratic Federation [CDT], announced this afternoon that he will no longer support Patricio Aylwin's candidacy because of the slander, harassment, and aggression that has been directed against his friends following his resignation from the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] because of its alliance with Marxist groups.

[Begin Rios recording] I said that I would support Patricio Aylwin, but in view of the slander, harassment, and aggression directed at friends of mine in various cities throughout the country, especially in Concepcion and Talcahuano, I am no longer willing to extend this support. However, I have not yet said whom I will support instead. Thus, I want to categorically refute anyone who is trying to link me to some specific candidate. [end recording]

Rios made this statement after he returned from the world congress of the powerful AFL-CIO in the United States, which Polish union leader Lech Walesa also attended. The CDT president reported that Walesa received a 30-minute ovation, an unprecedented event that, according to Rios, sealed the fate of communist dictatorships throughout the world.

Asked about his decision to leave the PDC, Rios said that it had not been an easy one. I want to be at peace with my conscience; I fight for principles, not people, the labor union leader said. Rios predicted that the alliance that the PDC has entered with the Marxist parties of the Broad Party of the Socialist Left will benefit only the Marxists and that the final vote count will reflect this.

Opposition Leader Comments on Alliance, PCCh

PY1811233089 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Nov 89

[Text] Jorge Schaulsohn, secretary general of the Party for Democracy, has said that an effort is under way to create a historic alliance between the socialists and the Christian democrats. He also acknowledged the fact that communist dictatorships are collapsing all over the world.

Schaulsohn also labeled as positive the remarks by Communist Party of Chile [PCCh] Secretary General Volodia Teitelboim, alias Volodskiy, who said that if socialism has failed, it should not rule any more.

Shaulsohn said that he was pleased to see that the PCCh was feeling the effects of perestroyka, adding that all factions, including the most Marxist ones, should pledge to work within the democratic system. He indicated that the world is rejecting violence as a viable means of taking power, instead favoring the formation of strong coalitions that represent the will of the majority.

He said that Ricardo Lagos' alleged intention to run for president of the nation in 1994 is mere media speculation.

[Begin Shaulsohn recording] This is mere media speculation. Ricardo Lagos is a senatorial candidate and 1994 is a long time away. He has said very clearly that he has no presidential ambitions. We are members of the Coalition of Parties for Democracy, and we are working hard for Patricio Aylwin's victory, which we believe we will achieve, and for a congressional majority so we can move toward democracy. [end recording]

Shaulsohn held a news conference in which he criticized the reorganization of the Institute for the Normalization of Social Security. He charged that the new job structure was based on political considerations.

* Possible Friction in Concertacion Seen

90ET0035A Santiago QUE PASA in Spanish 26 Oct 89 pp 6-9

[Text] The honeymoon among the parties of the Concertacion seems to be drawing to an end. Christian Democracy (DC), like a jealous, weak husband, has begun to look with concern on the new airs that his wife, a socialist lady, is putting on. Previously weak and submissive to this powerful and handsome young man, she has been gaining strength. And given the unity among socialists, all indications are that the trend will continue. For his part, he is suffering from internal contradictions. He has seen better days.

"The CEP [Center for Political Studies] poll was the straw that broke the camel's back," said a DC source. Coming on top of the united vote of the Arrate and Almeyda socialists and Andres Zaldivar's controversial statements to Raquel Correa, the long-awaited poll hit home. According to the survey, major DC figures will not have seats in the next Congress, for example, Maximo Pacheco, a candidate for senator from the Seventh Region; Nicolas Diaz in the sixth; Orlando Saenz versus the communist Luis Guastavino in the interior fifth, and even Juan Hamilton, who ran for the party presidency, running against Laura Soto (PPD [Party for Democracy]) in the fifth. And even though the comrades have their doubts about the CEP poll ("They want to get us into a fight with the left"), panic is spreading.

Until now it has been all sweetness and light among the socialists in the Concertacion. And even their most malicious opponents predicted tensions for them only after 14 December. Yet certain rifts have already come to light, to be fair, more within the DC than among socialists, and they point to a rockier road ahead. "The poll shows that more than 50 percent intend to vote for the DC, and yet we're losing some of our best men," complains one activist. The cause: "For various reasons we're losing our image in the public's eye."

Aside from the dynamic and youthful campaign that the PPD has mounted in the provinces and the bombastic, provocative declarations of communist notables ("Who seem to have lapsed into an ultraleftist senile dementia,"

according to a renewal socialist), the feeling is that the DC is losing ground, in every way, vis-a-vis the left.

To begin with the most practical matter, the Parliamentary Commission of the DC has been a failure, according to one source. And the head of its chairman, Genaro Arriagada, could roll. "The party's jingle just came out last Friday, and the candidates' posters are still not ready, at a time when the PPD has already flooded Chile with its candidates alongside Patricio Aylwin," complains one source. And to top it all off, he adds, Arriagada and Mariano Fernandez (another member of the commission) are traveling overseas as the storm is worsening.

Even DC economist Alejandro Foxley is allegedly upset with how the campaign is being run. Rumor has it that he is not happy with socialist Carlos Ominami, a Lagos man. Although no one doubts that Foxley will be finance minister, some are indeed saying that Ominami will not head the Economy Ministry.

There is also concern over the constant presence of the left in the campaign. Disciplined as always, the socialists, carrying banners and shouting, are invading every act that the Concertacion's standard-bearer attends. A DC activist complains: "The left took all of the courses for party polling-place representatives, even the parallel tally."

Gossip and stories aside, concern over the loss of identity is already coming to light. And Andres Zaldivar's statements to EL MERCURIO fit perfectly within this framework. "What 'Chico' did, besides being an attack on Ricardo Lagos, is presumably part of a new strategy to begin giving the DC a sharper image," one source says. And he adds: "Even the coordinators of the campaign, Carlos Figueroa, Alfredo Burgos, and Jaime Ravinet, have begun secret meetings to develop a Christian Democrat strategy within the Concertacion; this was unheard of until now."

And to spur the congressional campaigns, the DC's candidates for deputy and senator will soon hold a meeting with "their" Patricio Aylwin in Caupolican Theater. The point is that given the framework of the multiparty group there will presumably also have to be a big meeting in Caupolican with the PPD and the socialists, and to a Christian Democrat that would not be all that positive. "Can you imagine the Caupolican full of little red flags?" A delight for Pablo Baraona.

To an opposition analyst the DC's problem vis-a-vis its allies runs deeper. "In philosophical terms there has been more dynamism in the PPD and in the Arrate PS [Socialist Party]. The DC is an archaic party with little new blood, and by this time without major thinkers. Jaime Castillo no lor[illegible]r is, and new intellectuals have not emerged." Even t[illegible]DC people themselves smile and shrug when they hear the shouts of "community socialism!" at some rallies.

The party's sclerosis is aggravated by threats of a revamping on both sides. On the left is a PPD that is something of an ideological hybrid and, therefore, that moderate voters can swallow. And on the right is National Renewal, which once it has unloaded the burden of Pinochet can start vying seriously for the political center with the DC.

For the time being, and in light of the differences with Almeyda factions that have surfaced, some DC members continue to support the small coalition that "as 'Colorin' (Adolfo) Zaldivar says, could be reborn," one of them remarks. This complicates an alliance with the left for them. They are even criticizing Aylwin's suprapartisanship. Socialist unity also has them worried because it caught them partly unawares.

"Until now it was convenient to have two socialisms," says one source, "because it allowed for a two-sided game. For long periods the DC had an 'impassioned flirtation' with the PPD. Then came a stage when the Almeyda PS was favored. But now, a united socialism could become a political force that is perfectly capable of counterbalancing the DC."

Other DC activists, in contrast, are less worried about a socialist reconciliation. They are wagering that it is a good idea to have an orthodox and, therefore, smaller left that is destined to be the opposition, period, for many decades. In any event, left-wing unity is not that sure a thing either. Almeyda's statements about deadlines and conditions for unity have been more careful than Jorge Arrate's. This sector takes a more moderate stand, compared to the Almeyda faction's more traditional position, and here Leninism could become a source of friction. So could the socialist role in the future government. The plenum supposedly settled this matter, but "Cloro's" remarks about "participation and independence" were quite ambiguous, not crystal clear. "To keep everyone happy."

The fact is that there are "liberals" and "conservatives" among Almeyda socialists as well. There is a "renewal" line (represented by German Correa, Ricardo Solari, Jaime Perez de Arce, and Eduardo Loyola, who are for a strong presence in the Aylwin administration), a "hard" line (headed by Camilo Escalona, a Leninist who advocates maintaining independence in the transition), and Clodomiro Almeyda's "Berlin circle," which lived in that city during socialism's crisis. One socialist cites this as justification for Almeyda's "sanctimoniousness" about East Germany: "Clodomiro's problem is his emotional link with the GDR, which prompts him, out of loyalty, to be cautious in his statements in this regard." And also about the future government. And for the sake of Andres Zaldivar's peace of mind, according to one "comrade," Almeyda is not interested in being foreign minister, let alone figuring in the next administration. "He wants to go off to write and leave a legacy. His mind is really elsewhere."

Moreover, some Almeyda people are afraid that if they draw too close to the DC and make common cause with the Aylwin administration, the PC [Communist Party] will outflank them on the left, push them to the right, and thus

start taking away their voters. "If united socialism ties itself lock, stock, and barrel to the DC, which by the way means dampening social demands, the broad area of discontent is going to be monopolized by ultraleftist groups that are politically irrational," says an Escalona man. Therefore, he adds, "we must not allow the lion to become a pussycat by letting them turn us into Social Democrats." In any event, the Renewal people are saying, Camilo Escalona's position is in the minority, and although at the plenum he disseminated a document that was quite harsh and critical of the Arrate PS, he wound up keeping quiet. Moreover, the feeling is that things will not go too well for the Almeyda people on 14 December, which will be a key to the course that the left takes.

The socialists are not the only ones who disagree about the transition. According to one source, "feelings are divided about the next government. There are politicians who from the start are looking towards 1993 and who have sidelined themselves even inside the DC. And there are others who see the Aylwin administration as the main objective."

There are expected to be strong short-term reasons why the parties of the Concertacion will have trouble maintaining their alliance. "Even in 4 years, and with the current macroeconomic situation, the government is likely to have difficulties. And the parties will be tempted to shift to the opposition rather than make common cause with unpopular measures," says one source.

A socialist from the Escalona faction agrees that the economy will presumably be one of the areas of greatest friction: "We do not accept the market economy, and our disagreements are no mystery. That model can be sustained only under authoritarianism. And Aylwin is not going to be Menem." An Almeyda man from the participatory line disagrees, however. "Our idea is that the economy ought to be redirected towards an option for the poor, but without neglecting inflation and macroeconomic balances and without lapsing into populism."

The government program itself is viewed as another hurdle in the transition. "The Almeyda PS places greater emphasis on the program than on the person of Aylwin and always underscores that it will make sure that it is complied with. And it is unlikely that the accord, as it is put together, can be complied with entirely," a PPD source says. In his judgment, ongoing electoral competition is another heightened area of friction.

But there are also variables that favor unity. Each one of Pinochet's "outbursts" brings his opponents together. Also, the perception of a premature splintering and a mediocre administration will improve the right's chances in 1993. This threat, which many are aware of, could be more serious than the electoral temptations of each party. And so far the political tide has tended to keep them together.

Another of the uncertainties inside the Concertacion: the PPD and its future. Just now, when all indications were that there was nothing to be done but resign oneself to socialist unity ("under which conditions the PPD will not survive"), Andres Zaldivar comes out and says that the Lagos people are expendable. This remark "got to" Lagos and prompted controversy within his movement. According to a source close to the DC president, "'Chico' talked too much, but he also wanted to hear an echo because he knew how Jorge Arrate would react." He goes on to say that apparently the Arrate people were pleased that the truth was finally told about the PPD, 70 percent of which consists of socialists from that faction.

Whether or not this is true, the outlook for the PPD will not clear up until December. "If there is a big PPD vote that is not socialist, its chances of surviving will be quite a bit better. And if Lagos does spectacularly well in Santiago and establishes himself as a front-line national figure, its chances will also improve," one analyst says. The CEP poll highlights the gap between Ricardo Lagos and M. Elena Carrera and the fact that the PPD is in a one-on-one fight for seats with Christian Democracy.

Another cloud on the horizon for the Concertacion is the possibility of a second round of balloting. If there is one, its future image will weaken, but the main impact will come elsewhere: the DC campaign will move to the right. "There would be a demand that a real political leadership, centralized in the DC, is needed. There would be more of a small-coalition system," indicates one source. In any event, the Concertacion, they say, is taking it for granted that it will win in the first round.

In the midst of all the disagreements in the Concertacion, the figure of Patricio Aylwin remains as steady as a rock. They say that he has handled himself well, gaining the support and trust of the socialists. Some factions of his party, however, feel somewhat neglected because of Don Patricio's suprapartisanship. According to them, it is because he has a "mea culpa" that goes back to 1973. "This is why he is putting up with the people in the broad coalition." In any event, his authority is not being questioned. The loyalty of some partners is, however, and hence some Christian Democrats are not ruling out a governability pact with the right. "After Aylwin's triumph," one predicts, "there will be some sort of rapprochement with National Renewal." And he asserts that meetings have already been held to achieve a governability pact.

At this juncture all indications are that the Concertacion's love affair will be stormy...if it really is a love affair. That remains to be seen.

* Concertacion Proposes Government Agenda

90ET0035B Santiago HOY in Spanish
30 Oct 89 pp 15-16

[Article by Alejandro Guillier: "How the Opposition Is Preparing To Govern"]

[Text] Like an army in the shadows, 1,500 specialists, professionals, and intellectuals from the Concertacion, organized into 5 working areas, 40 commissions, and

120 groups, are drawing up the plans and agenda of the administration that Patricio Aylwin will, they say, head.

The deadlines have been set. So have the goals.

When Aylwin walks into La Moneda on 11 March, he will be carrying a dossier containing the decisions that he will make during his first year in power.

This is an unprecedented development. Never before will as large a team have come to power with programs, plans, measures, and agendas so well prepared. Indeed, candidates Hernan Buchi and Francisco Javier Errazuriz have not taken the time to make a similar effort.

The legislative offensive will be almost immediate. The idea is to put forth a "major package" containing the main constitutional changes that have been pending since the plebiscite last August, the reforms of labor legislation, economic and social measures, attention to high-priority groups (young people, women, peasants), and the sensitive issue of civilian-military relations.

The intention is that this unique "major package" will be the fruit of a prior accord hammered out during the months from the elections on 14 December until 11 March 1990. The Concertacion's messages have specific audiences: National Renewal (RN), the union federations, and the employers associations. It will seek to put together a national consensus like the one that preceded the successful plebiscite last August.

If this goal is achieved, HOY was told, Chile will have finally begun the transition to democracy.

80 Simpson Street

The initiative came from Aylwin himself. Only days after the October 1988 plebiscite Aylwin invited a group of specialists and intellectuals from the Concertacion to undertake a tough job: draft the sector proposals of an imminent opposition government. The task included specific measures and a working agenda, besides the technical teams for governing.

Accepting his invitation entailed dropping out of the election campaign and working in the shadows, without TV or publicity.

His call struck a responsive cord. Edgardo Boeninger (PDC [Christian Democrat Party]) took over as coordinator, with Enrique Correa (PPD [Party for Democracy]) backing him up. The "section heads" were then chosen: Alejandro Foxley and Carlos Ominami in the socioeconomic area; Alejandro Magnet and Juan Somavia in foreign policy; Ernesto Livacic and Nemesio Antunez in culture and communications, while institutional policy was left in the hands of Jorge Tapia and Humberto Nogueira, and Boeninger and Correa reserved the strategic area of public administration for themselves.

The international relations commission, chaired by Sergio Molina, remained an ad hoc group. The former finance minister under President Frei will channel financial contributions and aid from abroad.

The goal of the 1,500-strong Concertacion army of government planners is to develop stable, professional teams that are loyal to Aylwin. The idea is that administration personnel will be selected from among them.

They were given their own headquarters: a large house on Almirante Simpson Street some meters from Vicuna Mackenna in Santiago.

The first stage was completed last week. Each commission submitted a list of priorities in its sector, with specific proposals and an analysis of resources and limitations. A complete government program must be outlined, specific measures proposed, and work teams trained before the end of October. The idea is to complete this task before 14 December in large-scale end-of-campaign rallies with businessmen, specialists, intellectuals, peasants, Indians, women, and young people. The proposals will be submitted and the fruits of debate will be harvested there.

With RN and the Businessmen?

Only after 14 December will the final stage of work on drafting the program begin. But some broad outlines have already been sketched.

The program to reoutfit the public health-care system and improve health-care services will be the number one priority. Labor reform in union organization and collective bargaining will be another strategic item in the Concertacion's program. On top of this, HOY was told, will come an offensive to win back young people (via training, rehabilitation), peasants, and women (the idea of setting up a National Office for Women and beefing up reforms of their legal rights is being discussed). Pollution control in the metropolitan area and the preservation of overexploited natural resources are other priorities.

Contacts with the union federations are making headway. Indeed, they have formulated their demands in the areas of labor legislation and working conditions.

The attempts to sound out business circles have been fruitless, however. The major confederations do not seem receptive to the idea of talking things over with the Concertacion before 14 December. To accept a dialogue now, it was said, would imply assuming that Buchi will lose in December. That would hasten the collapse of the right's congressional election campaign, which businessmen have been sustaining.

The contacts with National Renewal go far back. They began before the 1988 plebiscite. And they yielded their first fruits last August. The idea is to continue along this path.

Sergio Onofre Jarpa himself has flirted with the idea of agreeing to certain socioeconomic reforms. The opposition is also interested in getting RN to be party to an

accord before Aylwin negotiates with the Armed Forces after December, and with regard to the future internal government.

But the priorities and the timing differ.

To the Concertacion a dialogue with RN before 14 December is urgent so that it can reassure businessmen and military circles. RN is concerned about assuring itself a large vote so that it can negotiate from a position of strength with what they see will be a Concertacion government. All in all, there is agreement that by March the accords will have to be completely spelled out.

On Wednesday the 25th, however, Jarpa asserted that only "two or three items are still pending" in the area of the constitution and a potential agreement to amend the TV law. "There is no commitment to go along with the Concertacion on other propositions."

And What About the Binding Laws?

The RN senatorial candidate in the Eighth Region, Renato Gazmuri, delivered an eloquent address on Monday the 23rd during the debate with his PAIS [Broad Party of the Socialist Left] opponent Luis Maira on Channel 13's program "Decision 89."

Gazmuri described as "immoral and inappropriate" the last-minute legislation with which the regime of President Augusto Pinochet seeks to "tie down" the future government. Gazmuri cited the Central Bank. His argument was simple: Whether or not autonomy is appropriate, the future Congress ought to make that decision. It is a provocation to decide the matter beforehand.

It is known that the Concertacion is not going to accept such unilateral legislation.

What issues are especially irritating to the opposition?

The Central Bank, State, and National TV Council laws, the laws tying down the Judiciary and public administration, and the Organic Constitutional Law of the Armed Forces.

The new administrative statute, for example, cut the roster of personnel appointed by the president of the Republic to less than 350 posts. And this was after officials who support General Pinochet's policies were put in control of these agencies.

The Armed Forces law is another complex matter. When the Concertacion, RN, and the government reached the agreement that made possible the plebiscite last August, the government's representative, then Attorney General Fernando Lyon, asserted that there would be consultations with the political parties on this organic law. But the government did not keep its promise. Although Gen Fernando Matthei seems more receptive, if the current regime winds up approving legislation that does not give the civilian government sufficient guarantees, the intention is to amend it.

At that point Aylwin will remind RN of the commitments it made in August. It will be the most critical moment of the transition to democracy.

* Conservative Views Buchi's Campaign

90ET0022A Santiago QUE PASA in Spanish
5 Oct 89 pp 17-18

[Interview with Hermogenes Perez de Arce by Mariana Gunefeld; date and place not given: "Aylwin Will Need Me"; first paragraph is editorial comment]

[Text] There is no shortage of money. Perez de Arce says: "I have met people in the streets who have immediately made substantial contributions. They sit down and write checks." He hired a motorized road scraper to go over all of the streets in his senatorial district. He has become known in Penalolen by the poster: "Hermogenes will fix your street." He is a pleasant newspaper columnist with an original point of view. He is a very good person and is confident of winning.

[QUE PASA] Buchi always says: "We have the best ideas." However, even so, it could be that he will lose. How do you explain this?

[Perez de Arce] Because he has not succeeded in getting his message across. For example, it is clear to the people out of work that it is better for Buchi to be president than Aylwin. This is because Buchi has provided more jobs than Aylwin or his party has ever done.

[QUE PASA] But they do not understand it that way.

[Perez de Arce] That is the message which must be sent. It is necessary to point to the 4 years during which Buchi has been in office and to the fact that no one has ever provided more jobs than he has. And an ordinary citizen must understand what is best for him, because with a job he can be healthy, have educational services for his children and a house to live in.

[QUE PASA] Frankly, do you think that there is a lack of communication in Buchi's campaign?

[Perez de Arce] What is happening is that the opposition has been campaigning for years, whereas Buchi has only been doing this for the past 3 months. There is a difference in the intensity and the extent of the communications effort. Despite this, I believe that he is doing well and that the message is getting across. For that reason Buchi is moving up in the polls.

[QUE PASA] Can you specify a recent poll?

[Perez de Arce] I know that there is a poll which should be published in the near future. These are not official data from this poll, but people whom I trust have given me these figures: Aylwin, around 49 percent; Buchi, around 40 percent; Francisco Javier Errazuriz, around 10 percent.

[QUE PASA] Do you think that Pinochet, in the few speeches he has made, is implicitly treating Aylwin as the winner?

[Perez de Arce] That is not the way it is now. I see Aylwin as a worn out man. Within Concertacion they have become aware of the personal inferiority of their candidate and of the inferiority of his message, which is full of errors and contradictions. They know that he is not even approximately healthy enough, as Buchi is, to be president. About 2 days ago he was completely absent for an entire campaign day. They said that it was laryngitis, that his stomach was bothering him. Others said that he was going through kidney dialysis. In view of Buchi's personal strength—in every sense of the word—among our people, that feeling that Aylwin would win, which may have existed 1 month ago, has been disappearing. I personally look at things differently, and I believe that Pinochet does also.

[QUE PASA] However, opposition speakers and candidates are showing more strength in the debates. Do you feel that the supporters of the Right have an inferiority complex about defending their ideas?

[Perez de Arce] No. We are very proud of our ideas because they are winning throughout the world. What is happening is that we have always been weaker in levels of insolence and violence. We are reasonable and not violent people. We are people used to presenting our views calmly and serenely and not shouting or mouthing slogans. In general the Left has always sponsored one or another form of violence in Chile.

[QUE PASA] Opposition figures claim that Buchi has included many of their former ideas in his program. Do you think so?

[Perez de Arce] No. Quite the contrary. The idea of economic freedom has never been an opposition idea. It has been our idea.

[QUE PASA] It may be that Buchi has good ideas. However, he is criticized for never applying them as a government official.

[Perez de Arce] He was not a politician. He was a technocrat. Now he said that he would create 1 million jobs and he has done so. He offered more economic freedom and always provided it. Other actions which he could not take as a cabinet minister he can take as president.

[QUE PASA] Do you mean elections for members of municipal councils, which was always an opposition idea?

[Perez de Arce] But how could the minister of finance speak out in favor of the election of members of municipal councils! Buchi even went beyond that when he was minister of finance. In a very discreet way he concerned himself with constitutional reform which the opposition joined in supporting with their votes.

[QUE PASA] Buchi's program has been attacked for being populist and demagogic.

[Perez de Arce] It is popular but not populist. It is not demagogic. It can be achieved.

[QUE PASA] The opposition thinks that financing Buchi's program will cost twice as much as the solidarity fund which they are proposing: $1.5 billion.

[Perez de Arce] Certainly, because, for example, they are thinking about applying the ISAPRES [expansion unknown] program to everyone immediately and at the same time. Buchi himself has said that this is a gradual program. For example, in terms of health, there is a limitation on resources which makes it necessary to exclude many people from benefits under the system. No one can include everyone in the program within a single year. However, what we can do is to ensure that by steadily increasing the resources of the country and by making the administration more efficient we will succeed in ensuring that everyone will have medical attention equivalent to that in the ISAPRES program.

[QUE PASA] What is the fundamental difference between the Concertacion and Buchi programs?

[Perez de Arce] The difference is that one program is clearly based on the freedom of people and the other program is clearly inspired by a concept of state control.

[QUE PASA] There is speculation that if Aylwin is elected, the most probable outcome is that Foxley will be the next minister of finance. Do you think that he is a convinced supporter of the social market economy?

[Perez de Arce] The characteristic of the governments of the Left and of the Christian Democratic governments has been that their ministers of finance cannot do what they think that they should do. That is why Raul Saez resigned from the Frei administration. That is why Sergio Molina resigned. And the last person who was in a position to fill this post was a politician like Andres Zaldivar, because the more technically qualified ministers could not carry their points of view in the House of Representatives or in the party committee. Having Foxley in office as minister of finance is no guarantee to me, because the Christian Democratic Party has demonstrated that it has no power to implement the views of the technocrats.

[QUE PASA] In Europe Aylwin brought out a moderate program and let it be understood clearly that in Chile market oriented policies are going to be implemented. Do you believe in Aylwin?

[Perez de Arce] I do not believe in him. In the political parties supporting him government technocrats have never won out over the House of Representatives or over their youth departments or over the trade unions. Never. They are highly politicized parties, controlled by populist elements at their lower levels. They have nothing in common with the points of view of technocrats.

[QUE PASA] Then you do not believe that the Christian Democratic Party has changed?

[Perez de Arce] No. Their views have always been opposed to everything which has made it possible to have economic success. Now they are edging a little bit toward economic success. They want to have the results, but without going through any of the steps needed to achieve those results.

[QUE PASA] But Aylwin has given concrete proof of a moderate attitude. For example, he pointed out that it would not be possible to terminate the university-loan program.

[Perez de Arce] That is an old story with the Christian Democratic Party. Former President Frei once met with conservative members of congress from agricultural areas. They agreed together that a draft agrarian reform bill was not acceptable. When the Christian Democrats approved a draft bill which was completely contrary to what Frei had agreed on with those members of congress, the conservatives went to see him. Frei told them: "We lost. The party rejected our positions. What can I do? I am sorry." Aylwin may have some idea, but the Christian Democrats, or in reality the major elements in Concertacion, are going to say what is going to be done.

[QUE PASA] If Aylwin wins, will you be completely opposed to him?

[Perez de Arce] No. He is going to need a lot of help from me if I am a senator. Because if he says that he has moderate ideas, as in fact he does, he is going to need senators who have the same views. Therefore, he is going to need votes from people like me. And he is certainly going to have many problems with senators like Maria Elena Carrera.

[QUE PASA] Do you think that the Left is going to abandon a future government led by Aylwin?

[Perez de Arce] There is no doubt about this at all. The Left is going to be the worst thorn in the flesh for an Aylwin government because they are going to be interested in winning the 1994 election. A period of 4 years goes by very quickly. They are going to begin a destructive and demagogic program, with unbalanced petitions and strikes everywhere. They will finally say: "President Aylwin is merely a vacillating and moderate person, incapable of implementing drastic solutions to our problems."

[QUE PASA] And if that happens, would you be prepared to provide support to an Aylwin government?

[Perez de Arce] If it is just a matter of adopting adequate and reasonable measures to maintain stability and order, I have no doubt that I would support him. We will support him in every way. Should Aylwin win, he is going to need the votes of the Democracy and Progress Group. Therefore, the members of congress from this group will be the keys to the political future of Chile.

* Candidates' Proposals on Housing Studied

90ET0020A Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 22 Oct 89 pp F1, F16

[Article by Carolina Garcia de la Huerta: "What Buchi and Aylwin Propose for Housing"; first three paragraphs are editorial comment]

[Text] While the independent candidate promises to build 115,000 housing units per year and to pave 1,000 km of road, Concertacion has still not set out its specific intentions in this regard.

The great question is how many housing units must be built annually to reduce the Chilean housing shortage?

Buchi has pointed out that, if elected, the existing housing shortage will decline by 50 percent. Supporters of Aylwin, in response, consider Buchi's proposal demagogic, since this is a very long-range task.

Perhaps the most distinctive difference between the housing programs of Patricio Aylwin and Hernan Buchi lies in the precise figures which the independent candidate has made public in the last few days.

The well known commitment to build 100,000 subsidized housing units which Buchi has presented, plus the 15,000 emergency allocations of land, called "lots with services," are concrete proposals which may be contrasted with the lack—up to now—of definite commitments from Concertacion regarding the number of housing units to be built and the resources which will be allocated for this purpose.

Nevertheless, what is clear is that Aylwin's supporters consider what was done in this area during the government of President Pinochet absolutely inadequate.

One Aylwin supporter stated: "The average annual number of housing units begun by the government between 1974 and 1988 was 37,510. Even taking into consideration the increase in construction in the last few years, amounting to 60,000 units built annually, the programs approved by this government remain far below the goals achieved by previous governments."

On the other hand the figures coming from the Ministry of Housing, which agree with census figures and the number of building permits issued, are evidence that during the period of the military government 1 million housing units were built.

There are figures to suit every preference and candidate. Reaching agreement regarding them seems to be practically impossible. Even further, the key to the various positions lies precisely in how they have calculated housing needs and, consequently, how to satisfy them.

Thus, while Hernan Buchi's proposals are based on estimates contained in a study prepared by the Catholic University of Chile for the World Bank, the figures used by Concertacion are substantially higher than those in the

Catholic University study. Concertacion concludes that housing problems affect more than 1 million families.

For his part the independent candidate, agreeing with the study by Catholic University, considers that there is a shortage of 423,000 housing units and calculates that additional, annual needs are about 63,000 units, considering natural population increase and the replacement of obsolescent units. In this context the subsidized construction of 100,000 housing units would make it possible—over the next 4 years—to reduce existing demand by about 50 percent.

According to calculations provided by Buchi himself to the press, the housing shortage, which reached 21 percent during the Christian Democratic government and 13 percent during the military government, would decline to 7 percent at the end of his presidential term, if he is elected.

On the other hand housing specialists from Concertacion indicate that the housing shortage has increased "dramatically" during the military government because, according to their calculations, many fewer housing units were built than were needed for new families formed every year.

The Aylwin supporters calculate the annual marriage and housing obsolescence rate at about 100,000 housing units and consider that each new couple wants a home of their own. Therefore, if only the number of units promised by Buchi is built, this would result, at the most, in halting a further increase in the growth of the housing shortage.

Concertacion Government

Although Concertacion has not provided details regarding the number of housing units which Patricio Aylwin would complete if he becomes president, it would be appropriate to recall that members of the coalition of 17 parties composing it made allusion—after the plebiscite—to building 100,000 housing units annually.

Joan MacDonald, coordinator of the Housing Committee of Concertacion, points out that since the problem is enormous, it is necessary to do everything possible to provide housing for the poorest groups of the population in particular.

Therefore, she indicated that "we must make use of everything good, particularly all of the experience and errors made over so many years of housing policy, and correct what is needed to build as many houses and housing developments as are needed."

The three major policies which the parties affiliated with Concertacion are proposing include substantially expanding housing construction, in particular for the most disadvantaged groups; the establishment of better residential areas and housing developments with investments in services and equipment to create livable localities; and promoting decentralization and local participation at the communal, provincial, and regional levels.

Regarding public expenditure, the intention of a Concertacion administration is to expand it substantially in order to increase the number of housing units above the rate of family creations which, according to figures provided by Joan MacDonald, amount to 100,000 annually. This would be done not only to halt the growth in the housing shortage but also gradually to correct what the parties in Concertacion consider the most serious shortages inherited from the past.

Nevertheless, Joan MacDonald indicated that the solution to such a problem will have to be carried out gradually and without improvisations, since it is not a question "of entering the government in March and promising that such a goal will automatically be reached this year, when the whole system is not prepared to do that."

Furthermore, she estimated that the next government—whoever is the leader—will have to deal with two difficulties: more than 1,000,000 families with housing problems and the proliferation of shantytowns in isolated areas which do not have enough basic services.

Public investment will be concentrated on groups with the smallest incomes and will be channeled through a National Housing Plan.

Regarding priorities, the first matter of urgency for Concertacion is to provide housing to families which do not have a roof over their heads and, secondly, to deal with the problems of those who already have a house.

Joan MacDonald indicated that now under consideration is the construction of more subsidized houses, under a program of open and controlled applications; a massive program of steadily building new housing units; another program to improve existing housing; and a program of more financing for the middle classes.

In terms of urban development, consideration is being given to investment in equipment and services, the repair of deteriorated urban neighborhoods, the development of isolated rural areas, the establishment of a soil bank, and the formation of metropolitan area governments, among other things.

Regarding the proposed Unidad de Fomento [Development Unit], about which some fears have been expressed, this program seeks to correct the system of readjustment, in order to achieve better synchronization between increases in dividends and salaries.

115,000 Housing Units Annually

For his part presidential candidate Hernan Buchi, with the intention, as he has pointed out, of making public a concrete commitment to the housing needs of the people, announced this week details regarding his proposal to build 115,000 housing units annually, of which 100,000 would be subsidized by the national budget.

To build this number of housing units, a substantial increase in public expenditures is under consideration, amounting to 74 billion Chilean pesos annually. This

amount, as he indicated, would not come from a tax increase but from the growth of the Chilean economy.

The remaining 15,000 housing units would be built by the private sector on its own initiative. It should be pointed out that the proposed figure of 115,000 housing units annually is 35,000 units higher than the number presently being built.

In this vein the candidate emphasized that this would be the largest and most substantial housing program in the history of Chile, that it would go beyond the achievements of the present regime, and that it is three times greater than the average number of units built annually by the Christian Democratic government.

Regarding priorities, the main emphasis is attention to the needs of the poorest, through basic, urban, and rural housing programs. It is planned to build 45,000 basic housing units per year, a figure which reflects an increase of 83 percent over the present program.

In the urban sector it is proposed to accomplish the definitive eradication now under consideration of residential campgrounds, with attention provided to the families affected. In the rural areas 10,000 subsidized housing units will be built, which reflects an increase of 53 percent, compared to the number constructed recently.

Additionally, Buchi will continue with programs of sanitary infrastructure, that is, "lots with services," about 15,000 of which will be prepared annually. As Buchi indicated, with this number of lots 130,000 housing units could be provided per year, a figure which would no doubt decisively reduce the present shortage in the housing sector.

For middle class groups in particular a strengthening of the Sistema General de Subsidios Unificados [General System of Unified Subsidies] is under consideration, with more expeditious arrangements for access to bank loans. These arrangements will affect 45,000 housing units annually, that is, 66 percent more than what is being done at present.

Another aspect worthy of note in the Buchi program is the reference to a massive road paving program and the creation of green areas in residential neighborhoods. It is therefore intended—over the next 4 years—to pave about 1,000 km of streets and alleys, at a budgetary cost of 4 billion Chilean pesos annually.

In terms of developing urban facilities encouragement will be given to promoting the acquisition of community equipment and urban infrastructure, the adoption of a policy of urban development, and rebuilding central residential areas which have deteriorated.

Regarding UF's [unit of accounting adjusted for inflation], it has been indicated that freedom of choice will be available so that debtors may enter into adjustable rate loans, based on an index of their incomes. Consideration is also being given to increased investment in the housing field by the AFP [Pension Fund Administrators] and insurance companies.

Criticism on Both Sides

Both programs have been the target of the most varied criticism by the contending parties. Thus, while Buchi supporters emphasize the absence of concrete commitments by Concertacion, Aylwin supporters point to their concern over the "demagogic and populist" proposals made by Buchi.

Therefore, Joan MacDonald indicated that the 74 billion Chilean pesos in public expenditures mentioned by Buchi to carry out his program would not be enough for the construction of 100,000 subsidized housing units annually and the 15,000 "lots with services."

At the same time she pointed out that "the problem is so great that it will be necessary to do everything possible, particularly in terms of the poorest sectors. Nonetheless, this will be a long-term task."

Regarding the lack of figures, she pointed out that Concertacion has made very detailed studies but that it does not wish to enter the game of who is offering more and who is offering less. She indicated finally: "We must be realistic regarding this program, because we are going to have to carry it out as a government. Therefore, we cannot and do not wish to be demagogic."

For his part Charles Holmes, who was a close associate of Hernan Buchi in Odeplan [National Planning Office] and then an adviser of Miguel Angel Poduje, minister of housing, places special emphasis on the ambiguity of the program presented by Concertacion. In his view they do not wish to make a concrete commitment to public opinion, which reflects a lack of seriousness in their proposals. He pointed out: "Thus, they would not be accountable to anyone, and that attitude reflects pure demagogy."

He continued: "Furthermore, Aylwin's supporters are accustomed to criticize everything which is being done, but not to present real and concrete solutions for the social problems of the country."

Asked whether the program is or is not viable, in terms of the figures provided by Buchi, Holmes added that "it is one thing that they cannot offer precise figures and another thing that we can do so. There is no error in our calculations here. Probably, we will be more efficient than Concertacion in solving the country's housing problems."

* Socialist Ominami on Taxes, Labor

90ET0022B Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 22 Oct 89 p F16

[Interview with Carlos Ominami, PPD vice president, by Andres Benitez P.: "Ominami's Socialism"; first four paragraphs are editorial comment]

[Text] He is the prospective minister of economy in a future Aylwin administration. He has pointed out that Unidad Popular [Popular Unity, the coalition which supported the administration of President Salvador Allende] "followed a program of state control which is now outmoded throughout the world." He continues: "If the future government model is defined by an open economy in which the market and the private sector play an important role, I have no great problems with that." He adds: "We are not in favor of maintaining the fiction of a few private banks with access to major, public financing."

In the view of many people he is certain to be minister of economy in a future government under Patricio Aylwin. Rumors to this effect acquired more force when Aylwin chose him, together with Alejandro Foxley, as an economic adviser for his trip to Europe.

A graduate in commercial engineering from the University of Chile, Carlos Ominami continued his studies in Paris where he also received his doctorate in economics. At present he is vice president of the PPD [Party for Democracy] and a member of the Central Committee of the PS [Socialist Party]. He is also a founding member of CLEPI [expansion unknown].

It is not easy to determine where Ominami, the politician, ends and Ominami, the economist, begins. Perhaps he is one of the best examples of how difficult separating both specialties is turning out to be at the present time. In this connection his past participation in groups linked to the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left], together with rumors which associate him with the GAP, the "Group of Personal Friends" of Allende, make his political record the first question for conversation.

[EL MERCURIO] What did your participation in the MIR involve?

[Ominami] We are talking about what happened practically 20 years ago. I was a student in the Faculty of Economics of the University of Chile and I participated in a group associated with the MIR. This was a student group called the Frente de Estudiantes Revolucionarios de Economia [Economics Students Revolutionary Front]. There was a similar group in the Faculty of Engineering in which Hernan Buchi, among others, was a member.

[EL MERCURIO] You have also been linked to the "Group of Personal Friends" of Allende, the GAP.

[Ominami] That is totally false. I am an admirer of Salvador Allende and would have been prepared to make a great sacrifice for someone whom I consider an important figure in Chilean history. Unfortunately, I did not have the opportunity to provide him with that kind of support or anything else.

[EL MERCURIO] If Allende had asked you, would you have participated in the GAP?

[Ominami] If he had decided that it was useful to me to contribute to his personal security through the GAP, I would have done it. At the time I did not have the technical competence and probably was not old enough to do so.

[EL MERCURIO] You belong to a group which has been called, "Socialism Renewed." How does that fit in with the fact that you would have taken part in everything that Allende would have asked you to do? Does this mean that you would have participated in the seizures, the expropriations of companies, and other acts of that kind?

[Ominami] The whole basic process of renovation of socialism begins with a very critical view of the way in which things happened during that period in Chilean history. I think that initiating the practice of massive expropriation of property was harmful, both for the country as well as for the very objectives of Unidad Popular.

[EL MERCURIO] But how is it that you would have joined Allende while at the same time you criticize what was done during that period?

[Ominami] The Allende government can be criticized for many things, among which was the mismanagement of economic policy. This involved a mistaken, statist concept now outmoded in the world.

[EL MERCURIO] But this was a part of Allende's thinking. How can you separate a personality from his own government?

[Ominami] I separate him as a moral figure because of his long political experience. I also would preserve certain aspects of his thinking. His basic responsibility in the Unidad Popular government lies in not having had enough strength to hold on to what were the basic principles of his life and of his thinking.

The Model

[EL MERCURIO] What in the present economic system would you keep?

[Ominami] There are several things which should be kept. The fact that we have a relatively stable economy is something positive. The effort made to diversify exports is noteworthy as well as the access achieved to new international markets. Having our budget in a healthy condition is another important point, although I do not agree with the way in which that situation was achieved. This involved a very substantial reduction of social expenditure, particularly in some sectors, as in the case of health and education.

[EL MERCURIO] What would you change?

[Ominami] Rather than changing models this would involve various priorities and choices.

[EL MERCURIO] Then you do not criticize the model now in use?

[Ominami] I think that in this area you have to define what is meant by a model. If they tell me that the present

model is defined by having an open economy, where the market and the private sector play an important role, I have no great differences with that. Nevertheless, I believe that the model now in use in Chile is something more specific, and for that reason we are in favor of changing it.

[EL MERCURIO] What specifically would you change in the present model?

[Ominami] A specific aspect of the model used over the past 16 years involved labor legislation which clearly sought to place the workers in an inferior position, restricting their ability to negotiate. Also, the Chilean program has been characterized by benefiting those sectors with the highest income, with the idea that the so-called "trickle down" effect could resolve the problems of the majority of the people. This is something which I do not agree with.

[EL MERCURIO] Would it be correct to say that you would be proposing a series of reforms within the fundamental points of reference of a market economy?

[Ominami] We believe that the market must play an important role. However, we also believe that the state has a role to play in some sectors.

[EL MERCURIO] Which sectors?

[Ominami] Health, for example. I do not believe that health should be turned into a business. The state must participate in such a way as to guarantee every Chilean basic access to the health system.

[EL MERCURIO] You do not agree with the ISAPRES [expansion unknown] system?

[Ominami] If people with high incomes wish to enter into a contract with ISAPRES, I see no problem. However, that system cannot be anything other than a complement to the public health system.

[EL MERCURIO] What is wrong with meeting the health needs of the people through a private system such as ISAPRES?

[Ominami] I do not agree that when you go to a health clinic, the first question is not whether you are in pain but rather, where is your money?

[EL MERCURIO] Would you keep the ISAPRES system in addition to a public health system?

[Ominami] Certainly, with some changes, since at the present time there is a problem of equity. The people who are affiliated with the ISAPRES system, those with the highest income, no longer contribute to the public health system and no longer finance it.

[EL MERCURIO] How would you resolve that problem?

[Ominami] In Concertacion we are studying several alternatives. In my personal opinion I think that it is proper for the state to ask everyone for a basic contribution to the health system. If, over and above that basic contribution, someone wishes to have better health conditions and has enough income to pay for it, I see no problem if such a person does that.

Buchi's School

[EL MERCURIO] Apart from health, in what other area should the state participate to a major extent?

[Ominami] It is also important for the state to have a strong presence in the education sector. I think that one of the most significant achievements in the history of the Republic of Chile is the secondary school system. This is a matter which it would be quite important to discuss with Hernan Buchi, a former cabinet minister, who was educated at the Instituto Nacional, an excellent economics school. Buchi is a typical product of republican education in this country, since he went on to the University of Chile.

[EL MERCURIO] Do you agree with the system of turning the secondary schools over to the municipal authorities?

[Ominami] I like that system, but the economic situation of the country is so uneven that there are very great differences between the various municipalities, some of which are very wealthy, while others are very poor. So it is not a matter of speaking merely of the benefits of municipalization of the secondary schools.

[EL MERCURIO] Should we return to the idea of a "university for everyone?"

[Ominami] The matter of financing higher education is very complicated. Personally, I think that the subject should be dealt with along with other social needs. If we do this, we will probably come to the conclusion that under present economic conditions in Chile there are more urgent things which need to be financed by the state than higher education. In any case, I do not believe in university education free of charge.

Taxes

[EL MERCURIO] Do you and your associates feel responsible for having raised expectations among your supporters which are too high?

[Ominami] Certainly, we feel responsible, and we are carrying on a very extensive, educational effort. How are we going to explain to the people that not all problems can be resolved overnight: that we have to establish priorities, that there are many limitations on our being able to deal with demands which in every sense are legitimate but which cannot be completely satisfied all at once. In this area, beginning with Patricio Aylwin, a major educational effort has been made which is in contrast, it might be said in passing, with what is coming from Buchi and Errazuriz. I think that the Concertacion

program is the most responsible by far and for a very simple reason. It is the only one which has been designed to be implemented.

[EL MERCURIO] And why would Hernan Buchi have developed his program if it is not to be implemented?

[Ominami] In the case of Buchi a strictly election-oriented decision was made which has no technical consistency. I think that it is completely demagogic to make those 20 promises in his program, saying that at the same time taxes are going to be reduced. Frankly, the tax figures do not add up, and the implementation of a program of that kind will lead to tremendous destabilization at the macroeconomic level. Now, I believe that Hernan Buchi knows that, and the choice which he has made has been dictated by electoral considerations. He knows that next March he is not going to be faced with having to carry out his program.

[EL MERCURIO] Since we touched on the matter of taxes, which ones do you propose to change?

[Ominami] We have mentioned changing three kinds of taxes: the highest category, which would go up to 15 or 20 percent. It will also be necessary to rearrange the income tax on people at the highest and lowest levels. This involves making changes within those groups so that there will be a larger number of people—in the group which makes more than 200,000 pesos monthly—in the top tax paying categories. Finally, we are studying the elimination of assumed income, with the exception of small farmers and transportation companies.

[EL MERCURIO] Why is it necessary for taxes to go up?

[Ominami] Because it is necessary to finance greater social expenditures, and that is the only way of doing it without creating tax imbalances.

[EL MERCURIO] What is your view of the proposition that only economic growth is capable of resolving the problems of poverty?

[Ominami] In most respects I agree with that idea. Nevertheless, I think that the magnitude of social problems, and they have been growing, is such that it is essential to take direct action. It is impossible to rely on economic growth to resolve those problems which are now very urgent.

[EL MERCURIO] Would you be prepared to sacrifice some growth for the sake of greater social justice?

[Ominami] No. It is a matter of enacting tax legislation which would make it possible to finance greater social expenditure and which would not make economic growth more difficult.

Privatization

[EL MERCURIO] There is a certain amount of concern about the position of Concertacion regarding the matter of privatization. Are you thinking of making changes in this area?

[Ominami] When we speak of stability, we are not referring only to macroeconomic equilibrium. We think that it is essential for property to be stabilized in Chile, since the transfer of assets from one sector to another would have a negative impact on economic performance. Therefore, we have said that if privatization programs have been undertaken and improper situations have been proved to exist, these must be reconsidered. This does not mean that the enterprises involved would return to the public sector. It is possible to make adjustments for the distortions which have occurred, including reselling the enterprise, but under conditions open to public view.

[EL MERCURIO] Is it your impression that there are cases where irregularities have occurred?

[Ominami] I think that there are some cases.

[EL MERCURIO] Which ones?

[Ominami] We are studying them.

[EL MERCURIO] Are you also studying the case of the banks which took advantage of the provision for the repurchase of portfolios from the Central Bank?

[Ominami] It is clear that it will be necessary to try to normalize the situation affecting those banks. We are not in favor of maintaining the fiction of a few private banks with access to major, public financing.

[EL MERCURIO] But those banks have been privatized and have new owners.

[Ominami] We are critical of the whole system of people's capitalism which, as far as that goes, does not have much of the people in it. What we have said is that if, after a very precise, technical study it is proved that under market conditions those banks cannot make money, we will have to take some action. This action could include having the Central Bank take over part of their debt or open up the property of the banks to be cleaned up and sold once again.

[EL MERCURIO] But the studies have already been completed, and it is known that the banks which have the longest payment prospects are for periods of about 30 to 40 years.

[Ominami] Those conditions are subject to change and are not static. Obviously, to the extent that the profitability of the banks increases, the time for repayment will shorten and will approach existing market conditions.

[EL MERCURIO] Thirty to 40 years. Is a period this long a common market condition?

[Ominami] It is difficult to obtain a loan with such a long period of repayment in this country. Nevertheless, there is no doubt that there are more reasonable periods of repayment than the 90 or 100 years which were proposed at one time.

Labor Sector

[EL MERCURIO] The Concertacion program speaks of requiring the payment of union dues. Why require 85 percent of the labor force to be organized in trade unions?

[Ominami] This is a complicated problem which is being discussed. Here we are faced with two things which are contradictory, to a certain extent. From a theoretical point of view the mandatory collection of union dues is not a good system. Now the problem is that the level of trade union affiliation in this country is extremely low. I believe in a strong trade union movement. I would like to see us reach such a point without adopting measures such as the required payment of union dues.

[EL MERCURIO] Is this a subject which is being discussed?

[Ominami] We are hearing various opinions on the matter. We realize that, at best, it will not be possible to have a strong trade union movement without requiring the payment of union dues. Therefore, we have proposed this idea in our basic program.

[EL MERCURIO] But after all it is not the optimum solution which you are seeking.

[Ominami] No, and that is why we think that requiring the payment of trade union dues cannot be a permanent system. If this system is to be adopted definitively, it should be for a transitional period.

[EL MERCURIO] Regarding strikes, which have been proposed as indefinite in length, without the replacement of workers, and without firing the strikers, that proposal is also regarded as involving a very great amount of rigidity, particularly in some particularly sensitive sectors, such as fruit growing.

[Ominami] The right to strike must exist without restrictions because it is one of the tools which the workers have to negotiate with management. In this area you have to be careful with certain sectors, where a prolonged strike can be very harmful to the national economy, as in the case of the fruit growing sector and the ports.

[EL MERCURIO] Would there be special conditions for those sectors?

[Ominami] Within the collective bargaining mechanism itself it will be necessary to set up arrangements to prevent the shipment of fruit from being affected. In any case it must be clear that the recognition of strike action as a bargaining tool does not mean that we are encouraging it. I think that it is important for a future government to have as small a number of strikes as possible.

Carabineros Retirements Cause Command Changes

PY1811201189 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Nov 89

[Text] The Carabineros High Command has been officially reshuffled. Inspector General Gabriel Ormeno Melet has been appointed deputy director to replace Inspector General Jorge Portilla.

According to an official communique issued today, a total of six Carabinero generals, including Portilla, have reached retirement age, while the same number of colonels will be promoted to general. According to the Carabineros General Directorate, the changes will be effective 1 March 1990.

Following is the list of generals who will retire voluntarily: Rigoberto Gonzalez Munoz, Idelberio Duarte Duarte, (Guillermo Rosales Jimenez), (Jose Aguayo Lobos), and Manuel Mardones Rodriguez.

The following colonels will be promoted to general: (Oscar Tapia Perez), who has been appointed chief of the metropolitan zone; (Sergio Jimenez Albornoz), who has been appointed deputy director for special police activities; (Juan Vilches Maldonado), who has been appointed chief of the fourth zone in Puerto Montt; (Eugenio Palacios Salas), who has been appointed chief of the third region; (Nelson Rodriguez Guerrero), who has been appointed chief of the seventh zone; and (Osvaldo Munoz Sanhueza), who has been appointed to head the Carabineros advisory commission.

CPPD Office in Santiago Attacked; No Injuries

PY1811033089 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 17 Nov 89

[Excerpts] Seven individuals broke into an office of the Coalition of Parties for Democracy [CPPD] at 1690 Salesianos Street in southern Santiago this afternoon. They broke all the windows and smeared paint around the office. Inside the office, CPPD member Victor Saa, 22, was caught by surprise.

[Begin Saa recording] [passage omitted] They tied me up and left me in that corner, and they began taking things away from the drawers, tearing up documents and Patricio Aylwin posters. [end recording]

The seven individuals sprayed white paint over Saa, who was deeply shocked by the aggression. The seven individuals took away two files from CPPD. This office had previously received telephone threats from the Hernan Buchi command.

FPMR Interrupts Santiago TV Transmission

PY1811033289 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 17 Nov 89

[Text] The Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR], the armed branch of the Chilean Communist Party, interrupted the transmission of television Channel 13 this afternoon .

The FPMR aired a message expressing its support for the leftist guerrillas of the Salvadoran Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], which took over part of the Salvadoran capital and eight provinces.

The clandestine message could be seen only in part of downtown Santiago. The FPMR said that the civil war created by the Salvadoran left with support from Cuba and Nicaragua is an example for its struggle in Chile.

Colombia

ELN Releases Petroleum Company Employees

PA2111012989 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Nov 89

[Text] Two engineers and two cameramen who had been kidnapped by members of the Army of National Liberation, ELN, in a rural area of Norte de Santander Department were released in the Pamplona main plaza, the petroleum company that the men work for has reported.

The Termotecnia Industrial Consortium issued a statement reporting that Juan Carlos Mir, a Mexican engineer, and Armando Caicedo, a Colombian engineer, as well as two cameramen, were released in Pamplona Municipality, Norte de Santander Department.

The four employees of the petroleum consortium were released unharmed by the rebels with a message for (Eduardo Azafel Kure), the Norte de Santander governor. The four men were kidnapped on 7 November by an ELN unit near San Berardo, Toledo Municipality, in the northern part of the department in a place called Alto del Oro.

Paraguay

U.S. Said To Provide Intelligence to Stroessner

PY2011175089 Santiago COSAS in Spanish 9 Nov 89 pp 93-95

[Part three of a series of 'Revelations' about Paraguay's former dictator Alfredo Stroessner by Chilean journalist Alex Shoumatoff]

[Excerpts] Politics in Paraguay is treated according to the principle of "mbarete," a Guarani word meaning power, the law of the more powerful. It is a Darwinian principle. Let us take, for example, the case of Napoleon Ortigoza, a handsome cavalry officer of the upper class who ended up as the political prisoner serving the longest sentence in Latin America. The theories about his arrest are many and grotesque, but some of them involve him in a sinister plot to overthrow Stroessner. When a young cadet, Alberto Benitez, was murdered—whether by other officers to cover rumors of homosexual practices or because he was tortured by the police to reveal more details of the plot—Interior Minister Edgar Insfran, according to a theory, found a perfect opportunity to blame Ortigoza for that murder. Ortigoza, in fact, was not yet involved in any plot, but was the likely suspect. [passage omitted]

Communism was absolutely mentioned. [sentence as published] In 1958, anti-Peronist General Teranzo Montero attempted a guerrilla invasion of Paraguay with 458 subversives trained in Argentina, who posed as peasants. They infiltrated Alto Parana Department, but the Paraguayan Government was notified of their arrival and dispatched 6,000 soldiers to take care of the invaders. Three months later, only 17 subversives returned to Argentina; there were no prisoners. Those who did not return had been thrown off planes to feed the piranhas. Their swollen bodies floated down the river to Asuncion to serve as a lesson. Some responsibility for those acts should be given to the United States, because Stroessner could not have survived without its support. The first information from U.S. intelligence sources said that Stroessner was "a known, austere, and honest friend; a Chaco War hero." The Stroessner government was quickly recognized. A month later, U.S. assistance to Paraguay was increased by 50 percent. Between 1954 and 1960, Paraguay received $23.8 million, and this figure continued to increase. U.S. and Taiwanese advisers were sent to Paraguay, as they were to Uruguay and Brazil, to train the police in counterinsurgency and interrogation techniques—such as refreshing a subject's memory by pressing the thumb on the vein behind the ears. In fact, the United States contributed to state terrorism more than the former Nazis. The CIA intelligence in Asuncion, by monitoring transmissions in the Southern Cone, helped Stroessner to survive five attempts at removing him from power. In 1958, Nixon, who was stoned in Caracas, was received in a more friendly fashion in Asuncion. There are pictures of him and Stroessner embracing, standing side by side in a convertible car adorned with the banners of their countries. [passage omitted]

The current U.S. ambassador, Timothy Towell, arrived in Asuncion in September [1988] expecting to have an easy time, no more than reviewing human rights cases and drug trafficking problems with the Tyranosaurian at one time or another. Towell, a conservative, merely supported human rights, as opposed to his predecessor Clyde Taylor, a missionary's son. Taylor's hatred of Stroessner was so obvious that rumors spread that the State Department brought him back to the United States to dispel the idea that the United States was encouraging a coup. But it happened that Towell's luck was to be a part of one of the most exciting experiments in democracy on the continent, and he was the main actor. The Rodriguez government was extremely responsive to the wishes of the United States. When Towell and a visiting congressman mentioned that it might have been the time to release Mella Latorre, a Chilean photographer who had spent years in prison under suspicion of having been involved in Somoza's assassination, Latorre was set free. "Your wishes are orders," I heard one Rodriguez adviser say to Towell with feigned diffidence on a different matter.

"This man Rodriguez could do something truly historic," said Towell one afternoon, while playing tennis on one of the embassy's courts. We played almost every afternoon when I stayed in Asuncion. This was probably known in the Government House, because all Paraguayan personnel at the embassy are no doubt spies. Towell was a veteran of the tennis-political scene in Washington, and his right-hand drive was impossible to handle.

Rodriguez Views Cabinet Change, 'Taking Sides'

PY2111001189 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 19 Nov 89 p 14

[By special correspondents Nestor Desiderio Escobar Franco and Raul Gonzalez]

[Text] Mariscal Estigarribia, Paraguayan Chaco—"We must definitely remove passion, rancor, hatred, selfishness, envy, and arrogance from our hearts and minds," the president said yesterday in this city in Chaco, where he went to attend several official ceremonies.

President Rodriguez also commented on information disseminated by members of the orthodox traditionalist sector of the ruling Colorado Party to the effect that he is receiving bad advice and that the removal of [former Public Health and Social Welfare Minister Juan Manuel] Cano Melgarejo was the result of intrigues by some of his closest officials, who are manipulating him, saying: "I do not know if I am not quite used to having any advisers, because I grew up in the barracks. Common sense is my adviser. Anyone who thinks that I can be advised by those who are close to me and the like is totally mistaken. No way—I am not going to be a puppet. We used puppets in the cavalry for training. If I take some action, it is just common sense guiding me in my efforts to do things better. I may make mistakes, but I will never regret making them. And I will be the only one responsible for these mistakes."

No representative of the orthodox traditionalist sector was present at the ceremonies.

While touring the facilities dedicated in Mariscal Estigarribia, the president, in response to questions from the media, said: "After that action on 2-3 February we thought that we had buried hatred and rancor, but unfortunately this has not been the case. However, I still have faith, hope, and confidence in each Paraguayan to build a free and sovereign fatherland in which love, respect, tolerance, understanding, and unity among all Paraguayans will abound."

Asked about the reasons for removing Cano Melgarejo, Rodriguez responded: "Undoubtedly, the former minister has worked hard, and he has now withdrawn to dedicate himself to the political activities for which he has so much passion. He made room for another professional to take his place at the Public Health Ministry. I spoke with him and we fully agreed that he should work for the Colorado Party, since he wants to do this so much. I hope that his involvement in politics will help us reach the goal that all Paraguayans desire so strongly: that we all live in agreement, happiness, and harmony."

Asked about the situation of other members of his Cabinet who are also increasing their party political activities, as is the case with (Foreign Minister) Dr Luis Maria Argana and (Minister Without Portfolio) Juan R. Chaves, Rodriguez responded: "I am not speaking about them precisely, but about this man (Cano Melgarejo), who actually said that he had an extremely important role to play in politics and that, in his own words, he was not very fond of his position as health minister. I know that the others are fond of their posts, and I believe that they are discharging their duties perfectly. I also believe that they are contributing to building a happy fatherland for our people to enjoy better times."

"Many people believe that the president of the Republic is acting whimsically; this is not true," Rodriguez added. "For your information and, through you, for all of our dear and appreciated fellow party members, I am a Colorado, but I am the president of all Paraguayans. I am not taking any side. If anyone makes some statement or tries to make the people believe that I am taking sides with any faction, I can tell you that I am indeed taking a side, the side of all Paraguayans."

New Health Minister Prieto Conti Sworn In

PY2111005889 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 20 Nov 89 pp 12, 13

[Excerpt] After taking the appropriate constitutional oath before President General Andres Rodriguez at Government Palace, Dr Cinthia Prieto Conti, the public health and social welfare minister, said: "I think that this is the time to forever bury hatred and sectarianism in our country. This is a task for everyone. With your enthusiasm, as a Paraguayan and under this tricolor flag that I swore to honor, I ask you to do this."

This was a different, very emotional ceremony, especially since it was attended mainly by ladies of society, representatives from various organizations, and members of Paraguayan women's organizations. [passage omitted]

PL Convention Proclaims Oddone President

PY2111114389 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 20 Nov 89 p 10

[Excerpts] The Liberal Party (PL) held a disorderly and confusing special convention yesterday at the Yguazu movie theater. The convention proclaimed the "10 de Julio de 1887" ticket, headed by Reinaldo Oddone, who will complete the 1988-91 term as PL president. [passage omitted]

Joaquin Atilio Burgos, who passed on the PL presidency, read the annual report and the balance sheet, which were approved by most of the 150 persons present at the convention. [passage omitted]

The event concluded with the proclamation of the ticket, thanks to the "resolute" performance of the convention president, Alberto Varessini C., amid unrelenting offensive words. The new PL directorate includes Reinaldo Oddone as president; Florencio Notario and Nestor Stelatto as vice presidents; Carlos Ferreira Ibarra as secretary general; and Alberto Varessini C., Miguel A. Vargas Pena, Pedro A. Barreto, Juana Acosta de Mora, and Miguel Ayala B. as members. [passage omitted]

Peasants Expelled From Land; 100 Arrested

PY2111124389 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 17 Nov 89 p 12

[Text] The United Labor Federation (CUT) has denounced the arrest of more than 100 peasants, many of whom were also beaten, during violent operations to expel peasants from land they were occupying in the Alto Parana and Itapua Departments.

According to CUT, many peasants have been expelled from properties at km 160 of the 22 May Colony, at Toryvete, and at Naranjito. As a result of those operations, more than 100 peasants were arrested. In a previous issue, ULTIMA HORA already published the news that has now been reported by CUT.

In view of the serious social situation created by those operations, which are conducted jointly by the military and the police, CUT released a communique urging the government "to end repression against peasants who are occupying lands, because those occupations merely reflect the social injustice that still exists in our country. We also demand the immediate release of the arrested peasants and a rapid solution to their problems."

The communique continues: "The government is evidently implementing a policy of violent operations to expel the peasants without considering that these repressive acts simply exacerbate the social conflicts, instead of solving the peasants' real problems."

The communique adds: "This problem can be solved through a thorough agrarian reform and the immediate expropriation of nonproducing properties that were bought for purposes of speculation."

Peru

* Declining Role in Pacific Region Discussed

90ET0023B Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 7 Oct 89 p 12a

[Excerpt] Ica, 6 Oct—Because it has not understood present realities nor acted in accordance with the evolutionary process which used to distinguish it, Peru has lost its leadership position of 30 to 40 years ago among the countries belonging to the Pacific Basin and has been left far behind.

This is the view of Dr Gonzalo Garland, president of the Economic Council of the Pacific Basin, at the closing ceremony of the forum on international technical assistance and investment in the cultivation of jojoba beans. The forum was held in Ica.

In the course of the discussion, the progress made in experimental plantings and the possibilities of investment in coastal deserts up to 1,800 meters above sea level were analyzed.

The encouragement of research projects between international technical assistance organizations was also raised. These projects would make it possible to set up a system of compensatory trade and for the conversion of external debt, among other objectives.

Necessary for Peru To Play a Role in the Pacific Basin

He stated: "The coasts of Peru have been bathed by the Pacific Ocean for millions of years, but that is not enough, for it is urgently necessary for our country to play a role in the Pacific Basin, so that it will not continue to fall behind."

Dr Garland recalled that U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt once said that "The 20th century is the century of the Pacific Ocean," a statement which was borne out during his own time and later by World War II, the wars in Korea and Vietnam, and other conflicts.

He stressed that the countries which have understood this reality have advanced very quickly, and he gave as an example Mexico, where 1,200 subsidiaries of companies of developed countries have been established. This process has created 500,000 jobs.

He also pointed out that in Chile foreign investments have already reached between $5 and $6 billion.

At the same time he emphasized the cases of Taiwan, Hong Kong, South Korea, Singapore, and other Asian countries which have achieved rapid development in a few years.

He repeated that Taiwan has become the second greatest financial power in the world, with reserves of $83 billion and high standards of living. He said that Taiwan "does not owe even $1."

South America Viewed as a Latin American Desert

Dr Garland pointed out that South America is considered by the developed countries as the "Latin American desert," due to the extent to which our countries have fallen behind. He said that the South American countries as a whole have not even reached the level of exports of a single Asian country such as Taiwan.

He said that when he visited the countries of East Asia, there were occasions when he preferred to speak of Peru as a member of the Andes Group, with its 110 million people, out of fear that if he referred only to Peru, his listeners would mention that just one of their companies exported more than Peru as a whole. [passage omitted[

Uruguay

Rallies Held as Campaign Enters Final Stretch

PY2111014989 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1913 GMT 19 Nov 89

[By Alberto Pepe Leira]

[Text] Montevideo, 19 Nov (EFE)—The presidential candidates today held large rallies in Montevideo as they entered the final stretch of the electoral process for the elections scheduled for next Sunday. The rallies, in which the candidates will try to convince the undecided—10 percent of all voters, according to the polls—will be held until 23 November.

Compelled to vote by law, 86 to 90 percent of the 2,319,022 voters—citizens over 18 years of age—are expected to vote at one of the 8,493 voting tables that will be set up throughout the country.

According to the electoral court, 3,774 of the 7,082 voting tables that will operate in urban areas will be opened in Montevideo, which contains 50 percent of the Uruguayan population of 3 million. There will be 1,411 voting tables in the rural areas of Uruguay's 19 municipal districts.

The law establishes that the electoral campaign should end 2 days before the elections, thus giving voters—who in the past few months have heard all sorts of proposals—a 48-hour period of meditation.

Twelve candidates representing eight different political parties are running for the presidency. Uruguayans will also have to choose among thousands of slates—171 in Montevideo alone—to elect the 31 senators and 99 deputies for Congress. Moreover, they will elect 19 mayors with their respective 30-member council boards, as well as the electoral boards that will operate during the next 5 years throughout the country.

In addition to voting for candidates, Uruguayans will have to participate in a constitutional plebiscite promoted by organizations of pensioners. The plebiscite's purpose is to consult the people on including an article in the Constitution establishing quarterly adjustments of pensions, as is done with the salaries of public and private employees. A significant number of candidates support this proposal, but many of the most outstanding ones are against it, such as Colorado Party candidate Jorge Batlle Ibanez, who believes that a measure of this kind will cause inflation to soar up to 150 percent next July.

Other candidates, especially those of the main opposition Blanco Party, believe that some new tax should be created, but that a pension adjustment similar to that of the active workers should not be denied since, socially speaking, it is only fair.

According to polls, the elections will be very close. Due to the complexity of the vote-counting system, it is quite unlikely that the name of the future Uruguayan president, who will assume power on 1 March 1990, will be known before early on 27 November.

Polls indicate that Senator Luis Alberto Lacalle, one of the candidates for the National Party (Blanco), and governing Colorado Party candidate Jorge Batlle Ibanez, son and grandson twice removed of Uruguayan presidents, are the favorite candidates for the 26 November elections.

The Uruguayan system, by which the elector is allowed to simultaneously choose a party and one candidate within the party, allows for many candidates to each post. The Colorado and Blanco Parties have presented three presidential candidates each. The only candidate for the leftist Broad Front coalition is its traditional leader, General Liber Seregni.

Senator Hugo Batalla is the candidate for the New Sector alliance, formed by liberal and social democratic currents that split away from the coalition of leftist parties. Ninety-year-old scientist Rodolfo Talice will run the Ethos-Ecologist Green Party, which was founded for these elections. The remaining candidates belong to the extreme right and extreme left, which traditionally obtain some hundred votes each.

Guyana

Hoyte Says Guyana, Belize To Join OAS in 1990

PA1611233789 Paris AFP in Spanish 1750 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Ciudad Guayana, Venezuela, 9 Nov (AFP)—Guyana and Belize will join the OAS on 10 December 1990. This was stated by Guyanese President Desmond Hoyte before returning home on 8 November from this southeastern Venezuelan city, where he met with Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez.

Hoyte said that Guyana and Belize will thus be following the step that Canada will shortly take.

President Perez said that the participants in the October meeting of the Group of Eight (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela) urged Canada, Cuba, Guyana, and Belize to join the OAS. Canada announced, during the hemispheric summit in Costa Rica 2 weeks ago, that it will be joining the hemispheric organization.

Guyana and Belize had been unable to join prior to 1986, because the OAS maintained a regulation that rejected the entry of former European colonies with pending territorial disputes with member countries. Belize was the object of a Guatemalan claim over all of its territory, and Guyana of a Venezuelan claim over Essequibo, two-thirds of Guyana's territory.

Suriname

Foreign Minister Sedoc Addresses OAS Assembly

FL1611160589 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] At the OAS, Surinamese Foreign Minister Eddie Sedoc spoke about the political process in his country. He told the Assembly that his government is committed to democracy, and that his government has brought a recent uprising by Indian rebels under control. He repeated a pledge by his government not to use violence unless the situation deteriorates further.

Tucayanas Invite Bouterse to 18 Nov Meeting

FL1511193589 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] The rebellious Tucayana Amazon Indians have yesterday officially invited Army Commander Desi Bouterse for a discussion on Saturday coming [18 November]. The invitation was contained in a letter sent to Commander Bouterse by Commander Thomas, leader of the Tucayanas. In the letter, the Tucayanas also say they can't honor the call made by Commander Bouterse asking them to carry out new actions. [sentence as heard] The Tucayanas say that preparations have already been made to (?carry events) in the area where the Jungle Commando and the Union for Liberation and Democracy operate.

As of news time, it wasn't known whether Bouterse had accepted the invitation from the Tucayanas.

Groups Attend First Phase of National Dialogue

FL1511200089 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 15 Nov 89

[Text] The 14 functional groups, which are participating in the first phase of the national dialogue, have reviewed their views on the origin of the current national crisis and have presented solution models for the problem. The third meeting, in this phase within the framework of the national dialogue, was held yesterday in the Presidential Palace. Representatives of the trade union movement, the employers' organization, the ruling coalition, and religious groups were present at the discussions.

The director of the president's cabinet says that there is no harmony among the various groups in relation to the national crisis. The director of the cabinet, however, says that they are confident that they will all agree with the solution model.

The functional groups will on Tuesday coming [21 November] meet again to make arrangements on the future course of the national dialogue. They will, among others, decide which social groups will take part in the next phase of the dialogue.

Bouterse Postpones Meeting With Brunswijk

FL1811121289 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 17 Nov 89

[Text] The meeting between Army Commander Desi Bouterse and terrorist leader Ronnie Brunswijk has been postponed on the request of the army commander. Bouterse has yesterday asked President Ramsewak Shankar to take back the mandate for talks with Brunswijk, for the time being. The meeting would have taken place tomorrow.

Bouterse has decided, however, to postpone the meeting after he noted that the terrorist leader had the meeting with the leadership of the Moederbond Trade Union Federation Wednesday last [15 November]. The Military Authority says that it wants clarity about the aim and the results of the meeting between Brunswijk and the Moederbond. The military also wants to be informed about the upcoming meeting between Brunswijk and the Council of Trade Union Federations in Suriname, Ravaksur.

President Ramsewak Shankar yesterday withdrew the mandate of the government to Army Commander Bouterse, for the time being.

Brunswijk Invites Ravaksur for Discussion

FL1811123489 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 17 Nov 89

[Text] The Council of Trade Union Federations in Suriname, Ravaksur, has been invited by terrorist leader Ronnie Brunswijk for a discussion. The invitation was issued last Wednesday [15 November] during a meeting between the delegation from the Moederbond Trade Union Federation and the terrorist leader in the bauxite town of Moengo. The chairman of the presidium of Ravaksur, Fred Derby, said that the invitation for a discussion is being considered. The council rejects, however, that the invitation to Ravaksur has been the reason for Army Commander Bouterse to postpone the discussion between him and the gang leader. This meeting would have taken place tomorrow.

Ravaksur says that it has fought for 3 years for the ending of the war in which especially the working-class is suffering. The invitation by Brunswijk for a discussion on peace will, therefore, in this light be considered, said the chairman of the presidium of Ravaksur.

Terrorist leader Ronnie Brunswijk, has during the meeting on Wednesday last with the delegation from the Moederbond Trade Union Federation, declared that the Kourou Accord is not his main objective. Brunswijk said that the Kourou Accords could be changed or scratched if this can lead to peace in the country. The terrorist leader further declared that he takes the proposed discussions between himself and Army Commander Bouterse very seriously.

In relation to the incorporation of members of the [Brunswijk] gang into the police force, Brunswijk said he only accepted a proposal by the negotiators.

The Moederbond delegation, which held the discussions with gang leader Brunswijk, was led by union chairman Fred van Russel.

Unknown Assailants Attack Albina Barracks

FL2011210589 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 20 Nov 89

[Text] The (Acunta De Lanti) Barracks at Albina in the Marowijne District was last Friday evening [17 November] attacked by a group of unknown men. The cabinet of the Military Authority, which made this announcement, says that the attack was most serious.

The group of approximately 10 men was armed with automatic guns and rifles and fired a few rounds at the barracks. According to the Military Authority, this sudden attack on the barracks at Albina can hamper the preparation for discussions between Commander Bouterse and terrorist leader Brunswijk. The Military Authority says it will regret it if the Brunswijk Gang was involved in the attack.

Brunswijk has in the meantime stated that the so-called Jungle Commando is not responsible for the shooting on the barracks at Albina.